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Laughter is the best medicine

Seth Rogen's writer friend, Will Reiser, was diagnosed with cancer in his 20s Naturally, the two turned tragedy into comedy for their new film, '50/50' How they got a movie about 'the C-word' made {page 07}

INTO THE DEEP BASS WORLD OF JAMES BLAKE
MUSIC {page 17}

'PROHIBITION' LOOKS AT 'A NATION OF DRUNKARDS'
TELEVISION {page 16}

SPORTS
BREAKING DOWN THE RED SOX'S SEPTEMBER COLLAPSE {pages 19-23}

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In the news

937

The number of foreclosures that were completed in the state in August, the Warren Group reported Thursday. It was the highest monthly tally this year. The 5,465 foreclosures in the state so far this year represents a 45 percent drop from the same time period last year. METRO

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ONLINE TODAY

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ANNA FARIS ON BEING A LEADING LADY

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Boston prepares for occupation of two protests

Events expected to draw thousands ‘Right to the City’ hosts rally to fight foreclosure, unemployment ‘Occupy’ plans Dewey Square campout

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ Members of Occupy Boston gathered on the Common on Tuesday night to plan their Boston rally, scheduled for Friday at 6 p.m.

The city could get cluttered this weekend as organizers of two protests plan to pounce on the Financial District with allegedly thousands of people in tow.

If the numbers of those who attended general assemblies on the Boston Common this week match those who plan on camping out near South Station, a field of at least 200 tents will be visible in Dewey Square starting Friday.

On Wednesday night, members of “Occupy Boston,” a group of activists echoing the movements demonstrated on Wall Street to fight the corporate system, declared that Sept. 30 would be the day to “take back the city.”

Backed by lawyers, members of the ACLU, students and parents, the group decided to skip the legal permitting process and set up near the Financial District.

“If we get a permit it’s not an occupation, it’s called camping,” said ‘Winter,’ an activist at the assembly Wednesday.

A spokesperson for MassDOT, who owns the property, said “we hope folks appreciate its value and respect [it], and help to keep it as an attractive destination for everyone who visits.”

In a statement, Boston Police spokeswoman Elaine Driscoll said commanders met Thursday to go over logistics for all protest scenarios from both “Occupy” and “Right to the City,” the other protest planned.

“We [are developing] a deployment plan with a goal of respecting everyone’s right to protest but also ensuring the public’s safety,” she said.

“Occupy” members said they are ready for police.

“We will be peaceful when staring police in the face no matter what weapon they are wielding,” a protestor shouted to the group Wednesday night.

STEVE ANNEAR
steve.annear@metro.us

www.metro.us
STAY UP-TO-DATE ON OCCUPY BOSTON: WWW.METRO.US/OCCUPY

That’s ‘Right’

The Right to the City March and Rally, a group of residents who face home foreclosure and unemployment, is taking place Friday at 2 p.m. With a large protest at the Federal Street headquarters and 1,000 folks geared up to attend, families will be fighting against Bank of America near South Station.

“It’s going to be massive,” said Brandon German, an activist with the group. “This movement is about real victims — people dealing with foreclosure and eviction. They are marching and protesting because they are fed up with Bank of America’s practices.”

Obama’s uncle released

FRAMINGHAM. President Barack Obama’s uncle pleaded not guilty to an August drunken driving charge and was released on personal recognizance Thursday.

Onyango Obama, 67, was arrested in his hometown of Framingham for suspected drunken driving.

He was then placed on an immigration detainer because had been ordered to return to Kenya in 1992. However, he was released last month and officials said they could not talk about individual cases.

BOSTON.COM

North End drug ring busted

BOSTON. Ten men and one woman were indicted for allegedly trafficking cocaine throughout the state with many deals happening in the North End, the attorney general announced Thursday.

The charges stemmed from a drug network investigation that focused on Gerald Esposito, 40, of Boston, starting in March.

Authorities said that Esposito’s drug dealing took place in the North End and Revere. METRO

Big Brother at Forest Hills

BOSTON. On Thursday, the T finished installing more than 58 new cameras at the Forest Hills station, bringing the total count to 77, according to MBTA acting GM Jonathan Davis.

Davis also said the number of cameras at Jackson Station has tripled.

The upgrades cost roughly $963,000 — money that was funded with grant money from the Department of Homeland Security. METRO

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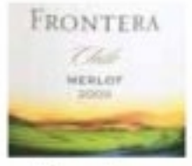

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THE BOSTON GLOBE/POOL PHOTO

▶ Edward Corliss enters the courtroom at Suffolk Superior Court in Boston. He is sentenced to life in prison without parole for the 2009 murder of Surendra Dangol.

Killer faces victim's family and life in jail

◗ Kin of slain store clerk grateful for justice ◗ Edward Corliss convicted of day-after-Christmas murder in JP ◗ Corliss 'confused' during sentencing

The tearful wife of Surendra Dangol didn't have many words for the man who killed her husband.

"I am happy that I got justice. I cannot say anything else," Kalpana Dangol said through an interpreter during Thursday's sentencing hearing for Edward Corliss.

Corliss was convicted of fatally shooting Dangol, a 39-year-old Nepali immigrant, as he robbed a Tedeschi store in Jamaica Plain on Dec. 26, 2009.

Corliss was on parole for an earlier murder conviction when he killed Dangol.

For the 2009 crime, he was convicted of first-degree murder, which carries an automatic sentence of life in prison without parole.

Quoted

"Pretty confused."

EDWARD CORLISS, WHEN ASKED BY A JUDGE IF HE WANTED TO SAY ANYTHING DURING HIS SENTENCING HEARING THURSDAY

Dangol's brother, Birendra, also spoke at the hearing.

"We were devastated by the incident that happened to my brother, but I'm glad we got justice," he said. "I am very happy I came from Nepal and got justice here in the United States."

It took prosecutors more time to recount Corliss' criminal history than it did for Dangol's wife and brother to give their statements.

The 65-year-old career criminal was first convicted of a crime as a teen in 1962. Since then he's spent decades in jail for crimes including breaking and entering and drunken driving.

He was convicted of killing another store clerk in Salisbury in 1971 and was paroled in 2006 for that crime.

At one point he escaped from a prison work crew for nearly two months and was in possession of a gun when he was recaptured.

Suffolk District Attorney Daniel Conley said that Corliss was "not the kind of man who should have been paroled."

"The other tragedy is the life that Edward Corliss lived," Conley said. "Given the kind of life he led, we need to do a better job of understanding career criminals."

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
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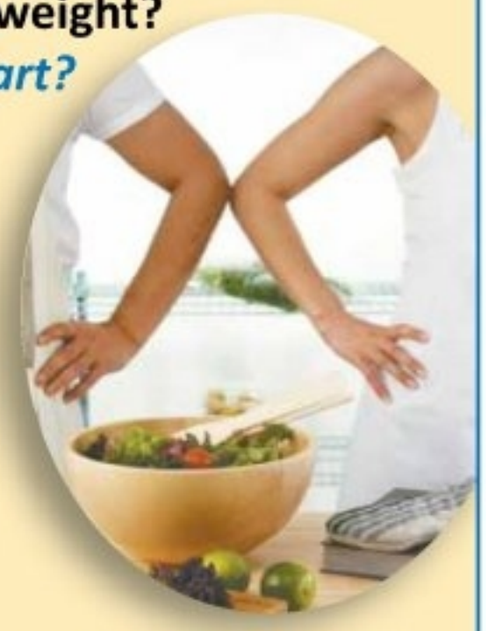

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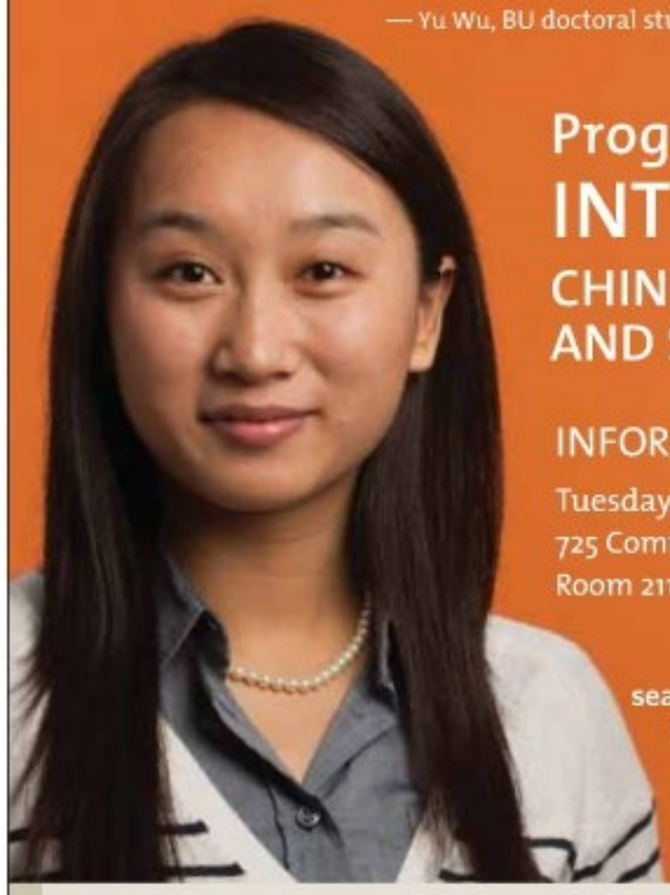

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Some fall for Onion spoof

Satirical journalists incite panic via over-the-top parody Readers take to Twitter to express outrage

▶ The above photo illustration, which is most definitely fake, displays Rep. John Boehner, a Republican, as literally holding a young girl hostage. It ran on The Onion website.

Police are investigating a series of satirical tweets from The Onion fake-news organization which sparked fears Thursday that children were taken hostage at the U.S. Capitol building.

The journalist-comedians at The Onion said on the paper's official Twitter account that "screams and gunfire" had been heard inside the Capitol and that school children had been taken hostage. Yesterday afternoon the satirical website had a similar story running on its "newswire" section.

The Onion, which confirmed that its Twitter account had not been hacked, posted a tweet later saying the original had been promoting a story on its website headlined "Congress Takes Group of Schoolchildren Hostage." The article is an absurd take on politicians' failure to find common ground on a series of recent policy issues, namely the debt ceiling debate.

Another series of tweets reported that Congress was demanding $12 trillion ransom "or all of the kids die."

Capitol police quickly confirmed there was no incident — and just as quickly critics took to Twitter to lambast the satirical site.

"@TheOnion: You people are despicable," one tweeter wrote. Another added: "@TheOnion — Very poor taste."

Quoted

"Bring us the money and we let the children go, simple as that."
THE ONION PARODY NEWSPAPER, UNDER THE GUISE OF REP. BOEHNER

METRO STAFF
letters@metro.us

Damning MJ death testimony

LOS ANGELES. Michael Jackson's doctor asked a bodyguard to grab vials of medicine and a saline bag from the singer's bedroom on the morning he died, a Los Angeles court heard on Thursday in the manslaughter trial of Dr. Conrad Murray.

Bodyguard Alberto Alvarez said he saw a "milky white substance" in the saline bag that Murray asked him to stash into a bag moments before an ambulance was called to attend to the lifeless singer.

"While I was standing at the foot of the bed he [Murray] reached over and grabbed a handful of vials and then he said 'here put them in a bag'," Alvarez testified on the third day of Murray's trial on a charge of involuntary manslaughter. **REUTERS**

WEEKEND

PHOTOS: CHRIS HELCERMANAS-BERGE

How to sell a cancer comedy

▶ Executive producer/star Seth Rogen takes a break on the set of "50/50."

Seth Rogen knew that with '50/50,' he had an important and entertaining story to tell — his friend (and screenwriter) Will Reiser's battle with a cancer diagnosis at the age of 25 But he also knew it was going to be a tough sell So here's how Rogen, who produced the film and co-stars in it with Joseph Gordon-Levitt, went about bringing a 'cancer comedy' to theaters

1: Don't fear the C-word

"The first decision you have to make is to not shy away from what the movie's about. I think you have to let people know it's about cancer and then let them know that it's not f—ing miserable to watch. That was kind of our entire goal with the marketing, was to really represent what the movie is and really let them know that it's honest and that it's going to be a very truthful experience — but at the same time it's funny and it's ultimately an enjoyable experience."

▶ Writer Will Reiser was the inspiration for the film.

2: Don't put the C-word in the title

"We're not stupid. We know a title like 'I'm with Cancer' is repellent to some people. I liked it, but something you have to acknowledge being a filmmaker who wants people to see his movies is that what you like and what you know other people are going to like are two vastly different things at times. We thought it was stupid to go through great lengths to make a movie that was really accessible and enjoyable and crowd-pleasing and then give it a title that would potentially alienate most of the people who wanted to go see it."

3: Find a new title — from wherever you can

"It's hard to think of a f—ing title. We literally had a box on set that crew members put suggestions in. We offered, like, thousands of dollars if you could think of a title. And I don't think '50/50' was any of those titles. I don't know who came up with it ultimately. No one got the prize money. One guy on the crew put in like 50 names, and so I think we ended up giving him a couple hundred bucks."

4: Aim for as large an audience as possible

"I'm not the kind of guy that goes and sees little independent movies. I go see big commercial movies. I don't think a movie has to be built for a small audience in order to be creatively worthwhile. You should be able to take an idea and make it in a way that everyone understands. To me, that's what art is — taking a feeling and articulating it to people."

5: As for the movie itself, keep it real

"We really knew that we couldn't do a bulls— version of the movie. We knew ultimately we had to make it hard to criticize the overall feeling of the movie, which we wanted to be like an honest one, you know? There was a scene where we're coffin-shopping that Will wrote into the first draft, which was funny, but we were like, 'We never go f—ing coffin-shopping. That's insane.'"

6: And lastly, know the marketplace and hope for the best

"I think that people go to movies about much more graphically horrific things than this — and those movies aren't funny — so I think people are open to it, honestly. I would go to this movie, and again I don't like little boring independent movies."

NED EHRBAR
METRO WORLD NEWS IN L.A.

Review

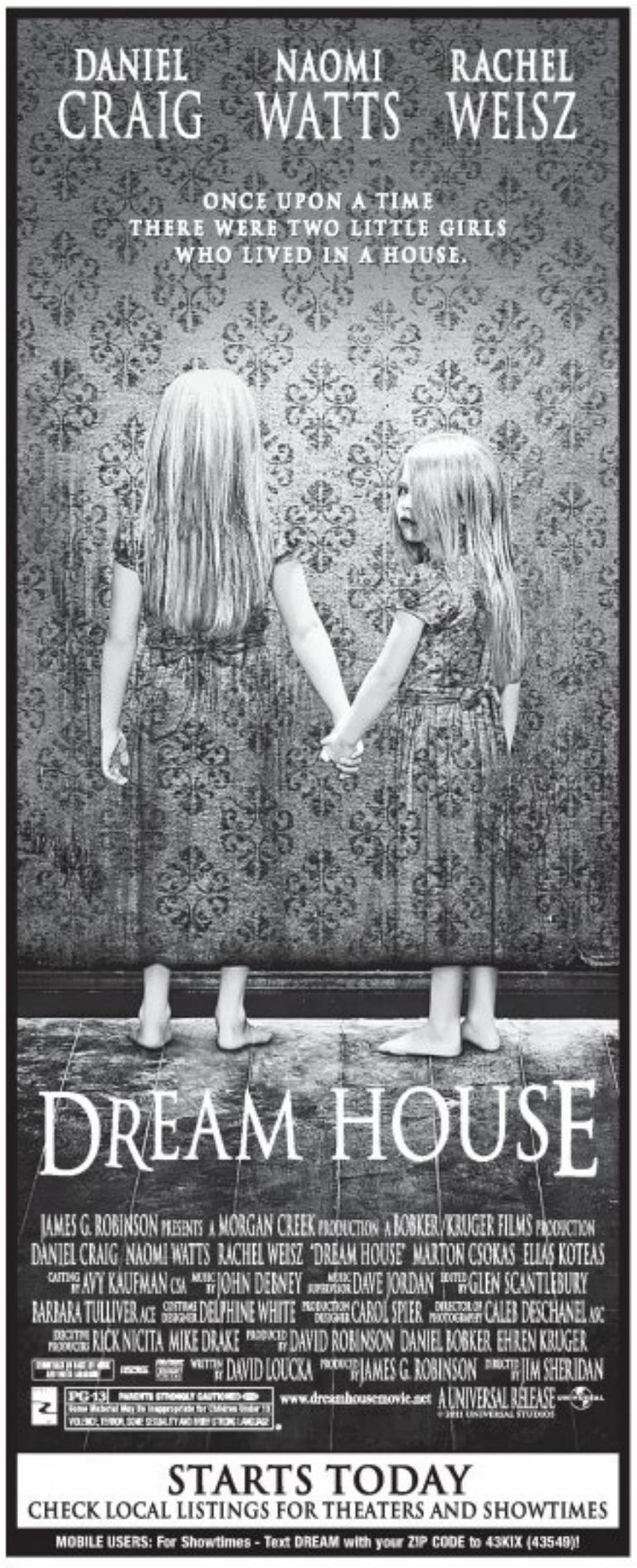
100 percent chance of a quality film

"50/50"
Director: Jonathan Levine
Cast: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Seth Rogen, Anna Kendrick
Grade: ●●●●○

▶ Seth Rogen, right, prays Joseph Gordon-Levitt didn't just say the C-word.

Cancer is no laughing matter. But "50/50" — the story of Adam (Joseph Gordon-Levitt), a clean-living guy diagnosed with a rare form of cancer — breaks taboos left and right. Luckily, it's tempered with great performances, a smart script and real emotion. There's not a false moment thanks to a script written by Will Reiser, the real-life inspiration for the story. Reiser — along with actors Gordon-Levitt, Anna Kendrick and Seth Rogen — find just the right balance between mortality, romance and cancer jokes in a script that will have you laughing and crying at the same time.

RICHARD CROUSE



The real-life Machine Gun Preacher

How Sam Childers went from drug addict to a man of God to the subject of a film starring Gerard Butler

NED EHRBAR
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

Sam Childers has had quite the unique life, going from a drug addict and convict to a man of God who works tirelessly to rescue orphans in war-torn countries around the world. Dubbed the Machine Gun Preacher for his faith in both scripture and firearms while building orphanages in Sudan over the past decade, Childers has been met with a surprising amount of resistance to his work. But resistance, he says, he can handle.

How about the glare of the Hollywood spotlight? He now finds himself being portrayed by Gerard Butler on the big screen, with his past deeds, both good and bad, out for the world to see — and some of them, he tells Metro, never even happened.

Where did the nickname come from?

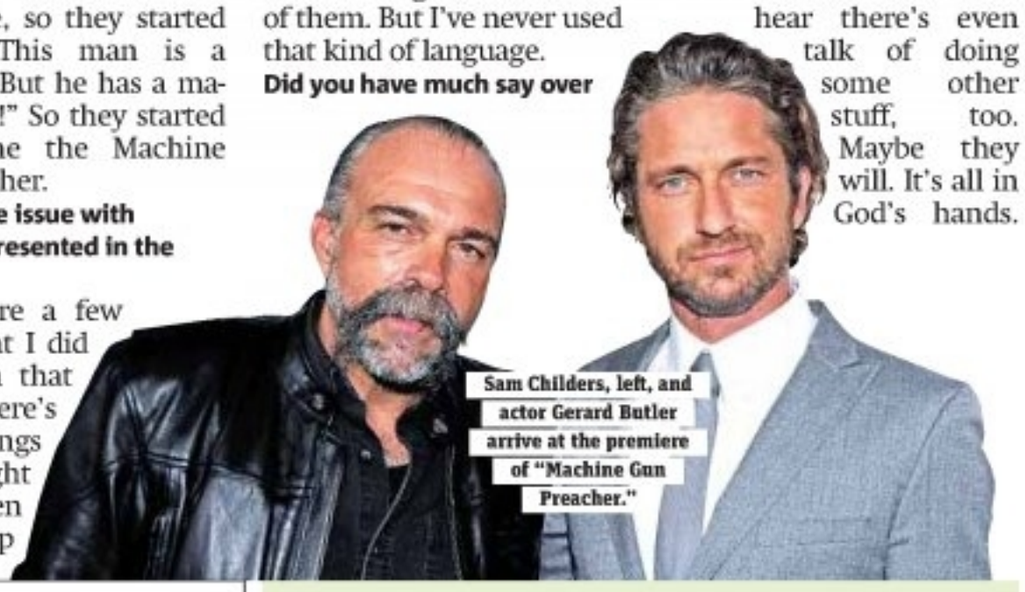
It started inside of Sudan when I first got there. When I started building the orphanage in 2000, I slept on a grass mat, and a lot of the village people would see me with a machine gun on one side and a bible on the other side, so they started saying, "This man is a preacher! But he has a machine gun!" So they started calling me the Machine Gun Preacher.

Do you take issue with anything presented in the film?

There were a few things that I did not do in that movie. There's a few things that might have been amped up in the movie, like the action scenes, but there's enough good that I'm satisfied. The one part in the movie where it had me robbing a drug dealer and saying a bad word to him because he's a black man — I've never done that before. Have I robbed drug dealers? A lot of them. But I've never used that kind of language.

Did you have much say over what parts of your life ended up on screen?

No, not really. To be honest with you, they didn't use the most violent parts of my life. If they were going to really cover my life, they would've had to make a series. There's no way it could be done in one movie. And I hear there's even talk of doing some other stuff, too. Maybe they will. It's all in God's hands.



Sam Childers, left, and actor Gerard Butler arrive at the premiere of "Machine Gun Preacher."

Review

'Machine Gun Preacher'

Director: Marc Foster
Cast: Gerard Butler, Michelle Monaghan, Michael Shannon **Rating:** R
Grade: ●●○○○

"Machine Gun Preacher" is, if nothing else, a cautionary tale for other filmmakers: Just because your source material is inherently captivating and thrilling doesn't mean your movie will be by default. The film takes the harrowing true story of Sam Childers and reduces it to a plodding, by-the-numbers biopic strangled by its own chronology. And the source material is pretty impressive: Childers, an ex-con and recovering drug addict, finds Jesus and heads to Africa for some missionary work. But when he's confronted with the horrors of war-torn Sudan, he launches his own crusade to rescue orphaned children, becoming a folk hero and target for rebel forces.

On film, though, it's all presented with a bland "this happened, then this happened" sobriety, the script reducing interesting people, like Childers (Gerard Butler) and his wife, Lynn, (Michelle Monaghan) to movie-of-the-week proportions.

METRO

Gerard Butler stars in "Machine Gun Preacher."

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BAD TEACHER (R) Fri and Sat 12:00. Digital Presentation
BUNRAKU (R) 11:20, 2:05, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
CONTAGION (PG-13) 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55, 10:40. Digital Presentation
CONTAGION: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG-13) 10:00, 10:00. IMAX
COURAGEOUS (PG-13) 10:00, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:10. Digital Presentation
CRAZY, STUPID, LOVE (PG-13) 4:45. Digital Presentation
DOLPHIN TALE 3D (PG) 10:55, 1:45, 4:20, 6:55, 9:30. RealD 3D
DREAM HOUSE (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:15, 11:25, 12:50, 2:00, 3:25, 4:35, 6:00, 7:10, 8:35, 9:50, 11:10, 12:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:15-11:25-12:50-2:00-3:25-4:35-6:00-7:10-8:35-9:50-11:10. Digital Presentation
DRIVE (R) 11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10. Digital Presentation
FAST FIVE: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG-13) Fri 7:00. IMAX; Sat 1:00. IMAX; Sun 4:00. IMAX
THE HELP (PG-13) 11:35, 2:45, 6:05. Digital Presentation
I DON'T KNOW HOW SHE DOES IT (PG-13) 11:35. Digital Presentation
INCEPTION: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG-13) Fri 4:00. IMAX; Sat 7:00. IMAX; Sun 1:00. IMAX
KEVIN HART: LAUGH AT MY PAIN (R) 1:20, 6:15.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
KILLER ELITE (R) 10:30, 12:00, 2:40, 3:30, 5:20, 8:00, 9:00, 10:50. Digital Presentation
THE LION KING 3D (G) 11:05, 1:30, 4:10, 6:30, 8:45, 11:00. RealD 3D
MACHINE GUN PREACHER (R) 11:00, 1:50, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
MONEYBALL (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:05, 12:10, 1:05, 3:10, 4:05, 6:10, 7:15, 9:10, 10:20, 12:10. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:05-12:10-1:05-3:10-4:05-6:10-7:15-9:10-10:20. Digital Presentation
STAR TREK: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG-13) Fri 1:00. IMAX; Sat 4:00. IMAX; Sun 7:00. IMAX
STRAW DOGS (R) 2:10. Digital Presentation
WARRIOR (PG-13) 9:15. Digital Presentation
WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER? (R) Fri and Sat 11:15, 1:55, 4:30, 7:05, 8:05, 9:40, 11:05, 12:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:15-1:55-4:30-7:05-8:05-9:40-11:05. Digital Presentation

REGAL CINEMAS

Fenway 13 & RPX
617-424-6266
201 Brookline Ave.
50/50 (R) Fri and Sat 12:50, 3:50, 7:00, 10:00, 12:35; Sun 12:50-3:50-7:00-10:00.
ABDUCTION (PG-13) 1:05, 4:20, 7:50, 10:35
BAD TEACHER (R) Fri 12:30
CONTAGION (PG-13) Fri and Sat 1:00, 3:45, 6:55, 9:45, 12:25; Sun 1:00-3:45-6:55-9:45.
DOLPHIN TALE (PG) 4:05, 10:20
DOLPHIN TALE 3D (PG) 12:55, 7:20. RealD 3D
DREAM HOUSE (PG-13) Fri and Sat 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10, 12:40. RPX; Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:10. RPX
DRIVE (R) Fri and Sat 1:25, 4:25, 7:25, 10:15, 12:45; Sun 1:25-4:25-7:25-10:15.
THE HELP (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:35, 3:55, 8:00, 11:30; Sun 8:00.
KILLER ELITE (R) Fri 1:15, 3:40, 4:15, 9:55, 10:25; Fri 12:45-6:45, OC-Open Caption; Sat 12:45-1:15-4:15-6:45-7:15-10:25.; Sat 3:40-9:55, OC-Open Caption; Sun 1:15-3:40-4:15-6:45-7:15-10:25.; Sun 12:45-9:55, OC-Open Caption
THE LION KING 3D (G) Fri and Sat 1:30, 4:35, 7:30, 10:05, 12:35. RealD 3D; Sun 1:30-4:35-7:30-10:05. RealD 3D
MONEYBALL (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:40, 1:20, 4:00, 4:30, 7:05, 7:35, 10:30, 11:00; Sun 12:40-1:20-4:00-4:30-7:05-7:35-10:30.
PHANTOM OF THE OPERA 25TH ANNIVERSARY LIVE (NR) Sun 2:00
WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER? (R) Fri and Sat 12:30, 3:30, 6:50, 9:50, 12:30. Digital Projection; Sun 12:30-3:30-6:50-9:50. Digital Projection

the COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Coolidge Corner Theatre
617-734-2500
290 Harvard St., Brookline
DEADBEAT AT DAWN (NR) Fri 12:00
THE DEBT (R) Fri 2:10, 7:00, 9:30; Sat 11:40-2:10-7:00-9:30.; Sun 11:40-2:10-10:00.
DRIVE (R) Fri and Sat 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; Sun 12:00-2:30-5:00-7:30.
GIRLFRIEND (NR) Fri 11:00, 2:15, 4:30, 7:15; Sat and Sun 12:00-2:15-4:30-7:15.
J. CANNIBAL'S FEAST OF FLESH XI FEATURING "DEMONS" (NR) Sat 12:00
KID'S SHOW: MISTER G Sat 10:30
MIDNIGHT IN PARIS (PG-13) 4:40
RESTLESS (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:30; Sun 12:15-2:30-7:00-9:30.
THE ROOM (R) Fri 12:00
TUCKER & DALE VS. EVIL (NR) Fri and Sat 9:45, 12:00; Sun 9:45.

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Braintree 10
888-AMC-4FUN
Route 93 off of Exit 6
50/50 (R) 10:30, 12:25, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30. Digital Presentation
ABDUCTION (PG-13) 11:05, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00. Digital Presentation
CONTAGION (PG-13) 10:50, 1:50, 4:35, 7:30, 10:10. Digital Presentation
DOLPHIN TALE (PG) Fri and Sat 10:35, 12:40, 3:20. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:35-12:00-2:50. Digital Presentation
DOLPHIN TALE 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 11:15, 2:10, 5:00, 7:55, 10:40. RealD 3D; Sun 11:15-2:10-5:00-7:40-10:20. RealD 3D
DREAM HOUSE (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:10, 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:10-2:00-4:50-7:40-10:25. Digital Presentation
DRIVE (R) Fri and Sat 10:45. Digital Presentation; Sun 5:30. Digital Presentation
KEVIN HART: LAUGH AT MY PAIN (R) Fri and Sat 6:10, 8:25.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sun 8:00-10:15.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
KILLER ELITE (R) 1:45, 4:45, 7:35, 10:20. Digital Presentation
THE LION KING 3D (G) Fri and Sat 10:45, 1:15, 3:50, 6:05, 8:20, 10:35. RealD 3D; Sun 10:45-1:15-3:35-5:50-8:05-10:25. RealD 3D
MONEYBALL (PG-13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:15. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation; 1:00-4:00-7:00-10:15. Digital Presentation
WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER? (R) 10:40, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50. Digital Presentation

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Burlington Cinema 10
888-AMC-4FUN
Across from Burlington Mall
50/50 (R) Fri 12:05, 2:30, 5:10, 8:00, 10:40. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:30-2:20-5:10-8:00-10:40. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:30-2:20-5:10-8:00. Digital Presentation
ABDUCTION (PG-13) Fri and Sat 1:10, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:20-1:10-4:10-6:40. Digital Presentation
CONTAGION (PG-13) Fri 12:15, 2:50, 5:30, 8:30, 11:00. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:40-2:50-5:50-8:30-11:00. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:40-2:50-5:50-8:30. Digital Presentation
DOLPHIN TALE (PG) 3:40. Digital Presentation; Sat 10:00. Digital Presentation;SFF-Sensory Friendly Film
DOLPHIN TALE 3D (PG) Fri 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00. RealD 3D; Sat 10:40-1:30-4:30-7:20-10:00. RealD 3D; Sun 10:40-1:30-4:30-7:20. RealD 3D
DREAM HOUSE (PG-13) Fri 1:50, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:00-1:50-4:50-7:30-10:10. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:00-1:50-4:50-7:30. Digital Presentation
DRIVE (R) Fri 9:40. Digital Presentation; Sat 9:55-9:40. Digital Presentation; Sun 9:55-9:30. Digital Presentation
THE HELP (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:20, 6:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 12:20-6:20. Digital Presentation
KILLER ELITE (R) Fri 2:00, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:10-2:00-5:00-7:50-10:35. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:10-2:00-5:00-7:50. Digital Presentation
THE LION KING 3D (G) Fri 12:30, 3:10, 6:10, 8:40, 11:00. RealD 3D; Sat 10:00-12:30-3:10-6:10-8:40-11:00. RealD 3D; Sun 10:00-12:30-3:10-6:10-8:40. RealD 3D
MONEYBALL (PG-13) Fri 12:50, 4:00, 7:10, 10:20. Digital Presentation; Sat 9:50-12:50-4:00-7:10-10:20. Digital Presentation; Sun 9:50-12:50-4:00-7:10-9:10. Digital Presentation
WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER? (R) Fri 12:10, 2:40, 5:30, 8:20, 10:55. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:50-2:40-5:30-8:20-10:55. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:50-2:40-5:30-8:20. Digital Presentation

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Lowes Harvard Square 5
888-AMC-4FUN
10 Church St., Cambridge
CONTAGION (PG-13) Fri 2:30, 4:55, 7:30, 10:00. Digital Presentation
WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER? (R) Fri 12:10, 2:40, 5:30, 8:20, 10:55. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:50-2:40-5:30-8:20-10:55. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:50-2:40-5:30-8:20. Digital Presentation

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Chestnut Hill 5
888-AMC-4FUN
Route 9 Newton
CONTAGION (PG-13) Fri 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00. Digital Presentation
DOLPHIN TALE 3D (PG) Fri 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:35, RealD 3D; Sat 10:30-1:00-4:00-7:00-9:35. RealD 3D; Sun 1:00-4:00-7:00. RealD 3D
KILLER ELITE (R) Fri and Sat 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 1:30-4:30-7:30. Digital Presentation
MONEYBALL (PG-13) Fri 1:50, 4:50, 7:50, 10:50. Digital Presentation; Sat 10:40-1:50-4:50-7:50-10:50. Digital Presentation; Sun 1:50-4:50-7:50. Digital Presentation
WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER? (R) Fri 2:05, 5:00, 8:00, 10:30. Digital Presentation; Sat 10:45-11:15-2:05-5:00-8:00-10:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 2:05-5:00-8:00. Digital Presentation
THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW (R) Sat 12:30
WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER? (R) Fri 2:45, 5:10, 7:45, 10:15. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:25-2:45-5:10-7:45-10:15-12:25. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:25-2:45-5:10-7:45-10:15. Digital Presentation

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Loews Liberty Tree Mall 20
888-AMC-4FUN
Exit 24 (Endicott St.) off Rt. 128
50/50 (R) Fri and Sat 10:25, 12:00, 1:00, 2:25, 3:25, 4:50, 5:50, 7:15, 8:15, 9:40, 10:40, 12:05. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:10-12:00-1:50-2:25-4:25-4:50-7:00-7:15-9:35-9:40. Digital Presentation
ABDUCTION (PG-13) 11:05, 2:05, 4:00, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10. Digital Presentation
BAD TEACHER (R) Fri and Sat 12:00
(PG-13) 10:20, 1:15, 4:10, 7:10, 10:05. Digital Presentation
THE HELP (PG-13) 10:15, 12:25, 3:40, 7:05, 10:20. Digital Presentation; 12:25-3:40-7:05-10:20. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation
I DON'T KNOW HOW SHE DOES IT (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:25, 4:55. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:25-4:50. Digital Presentation
INCEPTION: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG-13) Fri 7:00. IMAX; Sat 4:00. IMAX; Sun 1:00-10:15. IMAX
KILLER ELITE (R) Fri and Sat 12:20, 2:10, 3:10, 6:00, 7:20, 8:40, 10:00, 11:25. Digital Presentation; Sun 12:20-2:10-3:10-6:00-7:20-10:35, 12:10. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:10-12:10-1:50-2:45-4:25-5:25-7:00-8:00-9:35-10:35. Digital Presentation

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Framingham 16
888-AMC-4FUN
22 Flutie Pass
50/50 (R) Fri and Sat 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:00-1:45-4:30-7:05-9:40. Digital Presentation
ABDUCTION (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:45, 2:40, 5:15, 8:00, 10:40. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:45-2:40-5:10-7:45-10:15. Digital Presentation
CONTAGION (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:50, 1:30, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:50-1:30-4:10-7:10-9:45. Digital Presentation
CRAZY, STUPID, LOVE (PG-13) Fri and Sat 1:25, 4:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 6:45. Digital Presentation
THE DEBT (R) 2:10, 7:30. Digital Presentation
DOLPHIN TALE (PG) 10:30, 12:45, 3:30, 6:15, 9:10. Digital Presentation
DOLPHIN TALE 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 11:30, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:25. RealD 3D; Sun 11:30-2:15-5:00-7:40-10:20. RealD 3D
DREAM HOUSE (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:30, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:30-1:20-4:20-7:20-10:05. Digital Presentation
DRIVE (R) 1:10, 3:45, 6:50, 9:30. Digital Presentation
THE HELP (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:40, 3:00, 6:40, 9:55. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:40-3:00-6:35-9:50. Digital Presentation
I DON'T KNOW HOW SHE DOES IT (PG-13) 4:50, 10:10. Digital Presentation
KILLER ELITE (R) Fri and Sat 11:10, 2:00, 4:45, 7:50, 10:35. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:10-2:00-4:45-7:35-10:15. Digital Presentation
THE LION KING 3D (G) 10:45, 1:15, 3:50, 6:30, 9:00. RealD 3D
MONEYBALL (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:20, 12:30, 2:30, 3:40, 6:00, 7:00, 9:15, 10:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:20-12:30-2:30-3:40-6:00-7:00-9:15-10:00. Digital Presentation
PHANTOM OF THE OPERA 25TH ANNIVERSARY LIVE (NR) Sun 2:00
SPY KIDS: ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD (PG) 11:50. Digital Presentation
WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER? (R) Fri and Sat 10:40, 12:10, 2:50, 5:30, 7:15, 8:10, 10:00, 10:45. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:40-12:10-2:50-5:30-8:10-9:45. Digital Presentation

SHOWCASE

Showcase Cinema de Lux Patriot Place
800-315-4000
24 Patriot Place, Foxboro
50/50 (R) Fri and Sat 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30, 12:20. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Fri and Sat 2:00-4:30-7:40-10:30. DIGITAL PROJECTION;Lux Level
ABDUCTION (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:55, 3:45, 6:30, 9:10, 10:10, 11:30, 12:25. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 12:55-3:45-6:30-9:10-10:10. DIGITAL PROJECTION
BAD TEACHER (R) Fri and Sat 11:45. DIGITAL PROJECTION
CONTAGION (PG-13) Fri and Sat 1:05, 4:05, 6:45, 9:20, 11:40. DIGITAL PROJECTION
CRAZY, STUPID, LOVE (PG-13) 7:35. DIGITAL PROJECTION
THE DEBT (R) 7:00. DIGITAL PROJECTION
DOLPHIN TALE (PG) 11:50, 2:25, 5:00. DIGITAL PROJECTION
DOLPHIN TALE 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 1:15, 4:10, 6:55, 9:55, 12:20. REAL D 3D; Sun 1:15-4:10-6:55-9:55. REAL D 3D
DREAM HOUSE (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:00, 2:15, 4:45, 7:25, 9:40, 11:50. RWC IN DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 12:00-2:15-4:45-7:25-9:40. RWC IN DIGITAL PROJECTION
DRIVE (R) Fri and Sat 1:45, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15, 12:30. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 4:40-7:30-10:15. DIGITAL PROJECTION
THE HELP (PG-13) 12:10, 3:15, 6:20, 9:25. DIGITAL PROJECTION
I DON'T KNOW HOW SHE DOES IT (PG-13) Fri and Sat 9:45. DIGITAL PROJECTION
KILLER ELITE (R) Fri and Sat 12:30, 3:30, 6:50, 9:35, 12:05. DIGITAL PROJECTION
THE LION KING 3D (G) Fri and Sat 11:40, 1:50, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00, 11:05. REAL D 3D; Fri and Sat 1:50-4:20-6:40-9:00. Lux Level;REAL D 3D
THE LION KING (G) 12:15, 2:30, 4:50. DIGITAL PROJECTION
MONEYBALL (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:05, 12:50, 3:10, 3:50, 6:10, 7:10, 9:30, 10:05, 12:10. PRESENTED IN SONY 4K DIGITAL; 12:05-12:50-3:10-3:50-6:10-7:10-9:30-10:05. Lux Level;PRESENTED IN SONY 4K DIGITAL; Sun 12:05-12:50-3:10-3:50-6:10-7:10-9:30-10:05. PRESENTED IN SONY 4K DIGITAL
WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER? (R) Fri and Sat 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 9:50, 12:10. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 1:30-4:15-7:20-9:50. DIGITAL PROJECTION

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Loews Methuen 20
888-AMC-4FUN
Rte. 213 between I-93 & I-495
50/50 (R) 11:15, 2:00, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10. Digital Presentation
ABDUCTION (PG-13) 11:00, 12:40, 1:40, 4:15, 6:15, 7:00, 9:15, 10:15. Digital Presentation
BAD TEACHER (R) Fri and Sat 12:00. Digital Presentation
CONTAGION (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:45, 1:20, 4:05, 6:45, 9:30, 12:00. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:45-1:20-4:05-6:45-9:30. Digital Presentation
CONTAGION: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG-13) 10:00. IMAX
CRAZY, STUPID, LOVE (PG-13) 2:00, 7:40. Digital Presentation
DOLPHIN TALE (PG) Fri and Sat 11:45, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45. Digital Presentation; Sat 10:00. Digital Presentation;SFF-Sensory Friendly Film; Sun 11:45-2:30-5:15-8:00. Digital Presentation
DOLPHIN TALE 3D (PG) 10:45, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00. RealD 3D
DREAM HOUSE (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:00, 12:00, 1:40, 2:45, 4:30, 5:30, 7:15, 8:15, 10:00, 11:00. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:00-12:00-1:40-2:45-4:30-5:30-7:15-8:15-10:00. Digital Presentation
DRIVE (R) Fri and Sat 11:35, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:35-2:30-5:15-8:00-10:30. Digital Presentation
FAST FIVE: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG-13) Fri 1:00, 10:00. IMAX; Sat 7:00. IMAX; Sun 4:00. IMAX
THE HELP (PG-13) 11:30, 3:00, 6:30, 9:50. Digital Presentation
I DON'T KNOW HOW SHE DOES IT (PG-13) 3:30. Digital Presentation
INCEPTION: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG-13) Fri 7:00. IMAX; Sat 4:00. IMAX; Sun 1:00-10:00. IMAX
KILLER ELITE (R) Fri and Sat 1:00, 1:45, 3:50, 4:45, 6:45, 7:45, 9:40, 10:40. Digital Presentation; Sun 1:00-1:45-3:50-4:45-6:45-7:45-9:40. Digital Presentation
THE LION KING 3D (G) Fri and Sat 11:20, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30, 11:45. RealD 3D; Sun 11:20-2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30. RealD 3D
MAUSAM (NR) 11:30, 3:00, 6:30, 10:15. Digital Presentation
MONEYBALL (PG-13) 11:15, 12:15, 2:45, 3:45, 6:30, 7:15, 9:45, 10:30. Digital Presentation
SPY KIDS: ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD (PG) 11:10. Digital Presentation
STAR TREK: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG-13) Fri 4:00. IMAX; Sat 1:00-10:00. IMAX; Sun 7:00. IMAX
STRAW DOGS (R) 11:20, 4:50, 10:30. Digital Presentation
WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER? (R) Fri and Sat 11:30, 12:30, 2:15, 3:15, 5:00, 6:15, 7:45, 9:00, 10:30, 11:45. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:30-12:30-2:15-3:15-5:00-6:15-7:45-9:00-10:30. Digital Presentation

SOMERVILLE THEATRE

Somerville Theatre
617-625-5700
55 Davis Square
50/50 (R) Fri 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:40; Sat and Sun 3:00-5:15-7:30-9:40.
CONTAGION (PG-13) Fri 2:40, 5:00, 7:40, 10:00; Sat and Sun 2:40-5:00-7:40-10:00.
KILLER ELITE (R) Fri 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45; Sat and Sun 2:15-4:45-7:15-9:45.
MONEYBALL (PG-13) Fri 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15; Sat and Sun 1:30-4:20-7:20-10:15.

CAPITOL THEATRE

Capitol Theatre
781-648-4340
204 Massachusetts Avenue
ABDUCTION (PG-13) Fri and Sat 7:50, 10:10; Sun 7:50.
DOLPHIN TALE 3D (PG) Fri 4:40, 7:15, 9:40; Sat 2:10-4:40-7:15-9:40.; Sun 2:10-4:40-7:15.
DREAM HOUSE (PG-13) Fri 2:45, 5:15, 7:40, 10:00; Sat 2:45-5:15-7:40-10:00.; Sun 2:45-5:15-7:40.
DRIVE (R) Fri 3:00, 5:10, 7:30, 9:40; Sat 3:00-5:10-7:30-9:40.; Sun 3:00-5:10-7:30.
THE HELP (PG-13) Fri 5:00, 8:00; Sat and Sun 2:00-5:00-8:00.
THE LION KING 3D (G) Fri 3:20, 5:30, 7:45, 9:45; Sat 1:15-3:20-5:30-7:45-9:45.; Sun 1:15-3:20-5:30-7:45.

GEORGE KRAYCHYK / UNIVERSAL PICTURE

Also opening

▶ Don't you wish you had your 007 gadgets right now, Daniel Craig?

Foreclosing on 'Dream House'

Color us surprised that the latest installment of one of the perennial favorites of the horror film genre — the haunted house flick — wasn't screened for critics. While that doesn't say much for a studio's confidence, some may want to watch this spooky shocker (featuring celebrated stars like Naomi Watts) if only to observe the smoldering chemistry between real-life couple Daniel Craig and Rachel Weisz. They play a young mom and dad moving to New England — where most haunted houses tend to be — and settle into a home that has a dark past. METRO/HP

Double standards with half the fun

'What's Your Number' is a bawdy modern sex comedy wannabe Film can't decide if women are allowed to sleep with as many partners as men or not

CLAIRE FOLGER

▶ Oh you silly, loveable loser, Anna Faris.

If you go

'What's Your Number?'
Director: Mark Mylod
Cast: Anna Faris, Chris Evans
Rating: R
Grade: ●●○○○

It's impossible to talk about "What's Your Number" without examining the retrograde sexual politics at its heart. At issue is the old idea that a certain amount of sex partners can ruin a woman, a concept mature people stopped believing around the time of color TV. "What's Your Number" is never quite sure whether it wants to mock or validate our obsession with women's sexual history, and the result is a muddled mess.

Anna Faris stars in yet another one of those charming loser roles as a recently fired woman shocked to realize she's had sex with a grand total of 19 men, nearly twice the national average. When a friend reveals that women who have slept with 20 or more men have trouble finding husbands, Faris enlists the help of her caddish neighbor (Chris Evans) to track down each ex to see if any of them were actually "the one."

There are moments when "What's Your Number" truly wants to be a bawdy 2011 sex comedy, with its boys and its girls both effing up a storm and everybody going home convinced that worrying about sexual purity is a pointless waste of time. At the same time, though, director Mark Mylod and writers Gabrielle Allan and Jennifer Crittendon can't seem to stop humiliating Faris for being such a nasty slut, mocking her taste in men and making a running joke about the horrible hand jobs she gives. (To underline the double standard, Evans' character is revealed to have slept with 300 women — but this isn't a serious problem; he "just hasn't met the right girl yet.")

All this might not be such a big deal if the film were funny, but the exes rarely go beyond one-joke parodies and too many scenes confuse curses for punch lines. Faris has easy chemistry with both Evans and Ari Graynor as her sister, and the scenes of them just hanging out are much funnier than any of Faris' madcap adventures. This isn't a good movie, but it could make a fine midseason replacement sitcom.

NATE JONES
nate.jones@metro.us

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The feed ...

On Fridays, Dorothy will post the best tweets she received during the week. You can always let her know what you think — good or bad — at @dorothyatmetro.

It's TV premiere week! This week, @JHPointon and @artshimko write in about the Nancy Grace nip-slip controversy, @swimingnkicks and @PushitupACV2 want me to write real news (in a gossip column?), @rachelmeadows won't be tuning in to see Rachel Bilson in "Hart of Dixie" and @alibrady12 and @zeitlingeist let me know their thoughts on "Pan Am."

▶ **@JHPointon** really wish i hadn't read about #NancyGrace. Really really wish I didn't then look up the image. blinded.

▶ **@artshimko** Ironically you provided coverage about something that was completely uncovered for a second or two.

▶ **@swimingnkicks** stop spreading rumor and get a reall job at a real paper and do real work

▶ **@PushitupACV2** @swimingnkicks Agreed!! Stop the copy n paste n write something important.

▶ **@rachelmeadows** She seems nice enough. But after Sweet Home Alabama, I try and avoid movies rife with southern stereotypes.

▶ **@alibrady12** Yep, thought it looked promising. Int'l intrigue, good-looking actors. What else do you need?

▶ **@zeitlingeist** Just finished. Liked it more than I thought I would. Also, another reminder of fashion eras I wish I hadn't missed...

THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Joe Giudice steps out at T.G.I. Friday's?

Wait. Could it be? Do you mean the recent "vow renewal" with **Teresa** and **Joe Giudice** on "The Real Housewives of New Jersey" was just for ratings and not an honest showing of their eternal devotion for each other? Color me shocked!

If you're to believe a recent report by Radar-Online, Joe might not be the most devoted of husbands.

The site has their gossipy claws on a photo of "Juicy Joe" out dining with a woman who wasn't Teresa in Clifton, N.J., on Tuesday. Their restaurant of choice? A T.G.I. Friday's (of course it was). "I was in the T.G.I. Friday's and saw Joe and this woman who was NOT Teresa having a drink in a booth by the bar," an eyewitness told the site. "They were drinking martinis and when the woman finished hers she took a sip out of Joe's glass, too. They looked like they were having a good time together and laughing with each other. ... They looked very comfortable."

Of course, it's possible for Giudice to just take a foxy woman who is not his wife to Friday's. How else can he enjoy their amazing $20 dinner for two special? But that woman better watch it — I know what Teresa can do to a table. She'd set a woman on fire just for looking at Joe — there's no telling what she'll do about him sharing a Jack Daniel's® Sirloin & Shrimp with someone else.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Will the Giudices be torn asunder by a combo platter?

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DOROTHY ROBINSON'S WORD BLOG

ScarJo wants her privacy

Scarlett Johansson is still fuming over the phone hacking that led to nude pictures of the "Avengers" star being leaked online. "Just because you're an actor or make films or whatever, doesn't mean you're not entitled to your own personal privacy," she tells CNN. "If that is sieged in some way, it feels unjust. It feels wrong." Johansson isn't necessarily complaining about her fame, but she thinks there are limits. "It's an adjustment, but I think there are certain instances where you give a lot of yourself and finally you have to kind of put your foot down and say, 'Oh, wait — I'm taking it back,'" she says.

Pitts get their ears pierced

Angelina Jolie took her two oldest daughters, 6-year-old **Zahara** and 5-year-old **Shiloh**, to get their ears pierced in London, though it didn't go exactly as planned. "The eldest girl picked out some pretty 18-carat gold studs and gave them to her mom," a source tells the Sun. "The piercing gun was a bit too painful for her and she screamed then burst into tears. She was saying it felt like a stapler, so her little sister changed her mind about having hers done."

Talking points

Is Simpson's wedding off?

The November date of **Jessica Simpson**'s planned wedding to **Eric Johnson** is reportedly in doubt, and while it's thought her rumored pregnancy could be the reason, it's just as likely indecisiveness on the bride's part. "Everything is up in the air," a source tells Us Weekly. "She can't figure out what kind of day she wants. Some days she wants a big wedding in Hawaii, then other days she wants something closer to home."

Beyonce's super senses

Beyonce admits that her pregnancy might be driving a wedge between her and husband **Jay-Z** — at least where his cologne is concerned. "I smell everything," she tells ET Canada. "If it smells bad, I smell it. My husband's fragrance, his one that I always love, I hate right now." And while the pop star claims to not know the sex of the baby, sources tell Us Weekly that the couple has already picked out some pink Louboutin baby booties — and a name.

Lohan has an actual fan

Lindsay Lohan scored a modeling gig showing off German designer **Philipp Plein**'s 2012 line, and she's reportedly doing so well during the Lake Como, Italy, photo shoot that Plein has taken a personal interest in the actress, according to Fox News. "Lindsay has been staying in Philipp's room every night since she arrived. There's a lot of chemistry there," a source says, adding that while the two have grown close, they are not an item. It's turning out well, considering she almost didn't get the job. "It took two months of various negotiations."

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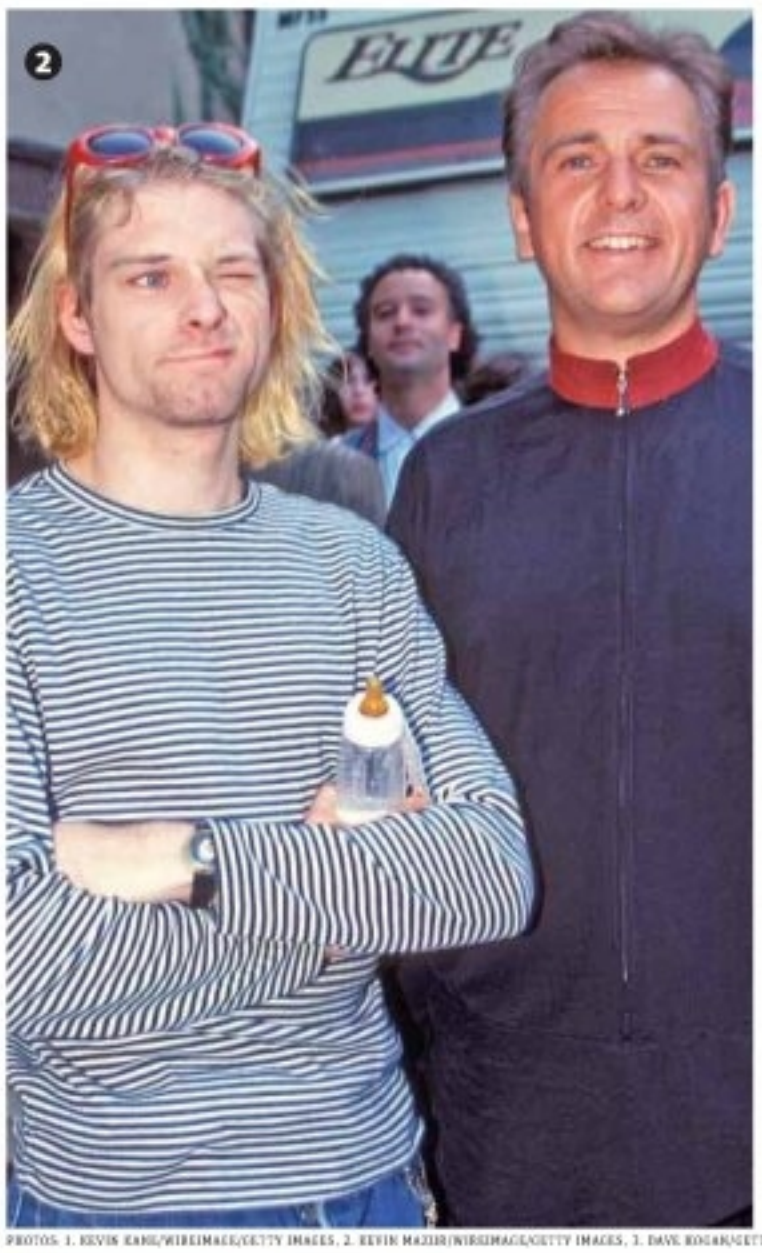
Unlikely music friendships captured on film

Now that the May-December romance of Ashton and Demi is probably over, we devote today's pictures to other unlikely (yet much happier) pairings. Of course these were all made possible by the magic of music, and if you would like to read what we think these people spoke about when they met, make sure to visit www.metro.us/mixtape.

1. Lady Gaga gave Bruce Springsteen a little of that human touch in May 2010 at the Almay concert to celebrate the Rainforest Fund's 21st birthday at Carnegie Hall.

2. This awkward photo of Kurt Cobain and Peter Gabriel was taken 18 years ago this month at the 10th annual MTV Video Music Awards. There are so many "What's wrong with this picture?" aspects — winking Kurt with the baby bottle, Peter's "Look who I'm getting my picture taken with" smile and both of them wearing tops that border on mock turtleneck!



3. This photo of James Brown and Bono was shot backstage at the Live 8 concert in 2005. It looks almost as if Bono is trying to talk the Godfather of Soul out of punching the U2 frontman in the face.

4. There's almost too much Unlikely Musical Friendship™ going on in this photo from the 1989 New York Music Awards. DMC of Run DMC, squatting in front, seems to be the only one who is pleased to be there. Samantha Fox seems happy to pose, but there's a strain in her smile that suggests she is disappointed by the lack of interest from LL Cool J and Joey and Dee Dee Ramone. Note: Unlikely Musical Friendship is not really trademarked.

5. Sammy Hagar and Patti Smith rocked out together at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony in 2007.

6. Though it looks like Stevie Wonder is awkwardly holding a Cher mannequin that somebody suddenly presented him with as a gift, this is really Cher. This pic was shot at the 16th annual Grammy Awards in 1974! That was 37 years ago!

PHOTOS: 1. KEVIN KANE/WIREIMAGE/GETTY IMAGES. 2. KEVIN MAZUR/WIREIMAGE/GETTY IMAGES. 3. DAVE ROGAN/GETTY IMAGES. 4. BOB GALELLA/WIREIMAGE/GETTY IMAGES. 5. KEVIN MAZUR/WIREIMAGE/GETTY IMAGES. 6. MICHAEL OCHS ARCHIVES

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Review

PETER COMBS

▶ "Some Enchanted Evening?" Hardly.

'South Pacific' is lost at sea

If you have a pulse, the great American musical "South Pacific" should at least put a lump in your throat, maybe even bring you to tears. Unfortunately, the production at the Opera House may just bore you to tears.

The fledgling tour lacks the requisite chemistry to capture audience members' hearts. When you hear the deep, beautifully melodic strains of "Some Enchanted Evening," you should be instantly transported to a time and place when you fell for a stranger across a crowded room. Marcelo Guzzo's (Emile de Becque) perfunctorily delivered rendition feels like mediocre piano bar fare. When Emile's love interest falls for him, Katie Reid (Nellie Forbush) should be gleefully singing "A Wonderful Guy." Though the nervous Nellie (pun intended) delivers decent vocals, her facial expressions and lack of emotion say anything but love. As Bloody Mary, Cathy Foy-Mahi delivers the only performance of note.

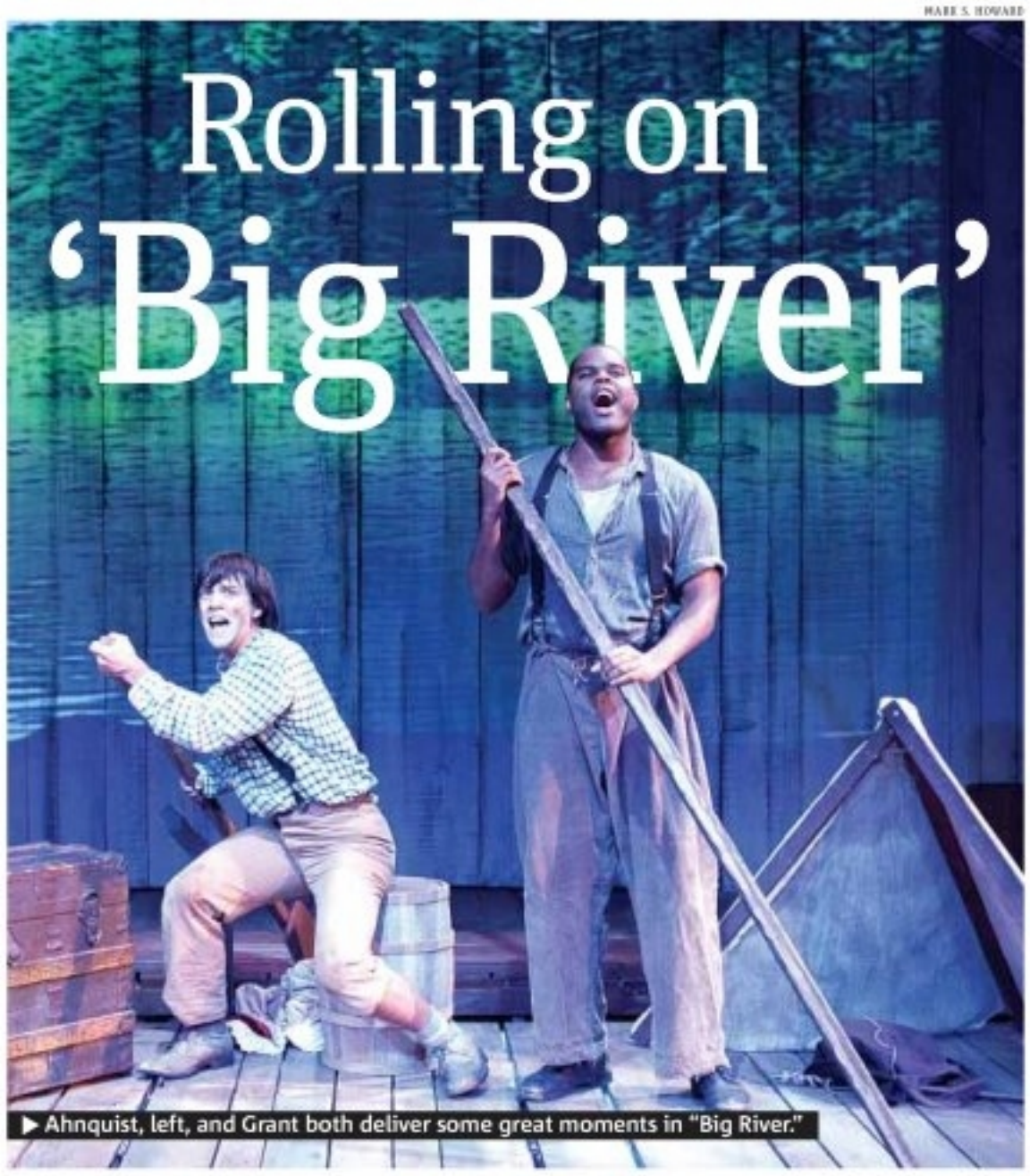
METRO/ND

'South Pacific'
Through Sunday
Boston Opera House
539 Washington St., Boston
$30-$115, 617-259-3400
broadwayinboston.com

The Lyric Stage Company has added a little Roger Miller to Mark Twain and made one Huck of a fun show

Rolling on 'Big River'

MARK S. HOWARD



▶ Ahnquist, left, and Grant both deliver some great moments in "Big River."

The Lyric Stage Company has cleaned up the muddied Huck Finn for a delightfully wholesome production of "Big River."

Mark Twain probably wouldn't have envisioned his famous runaways paddling downstream to perky country music, but it works in an almost innocent, G-rated way. Squeaky clean Finn and his friend and former slave Jim are living their journey to the music of Roger Miller, who made the hobo life sound appealing in his biggest hit, "King of the Road."

Director Spiro Veloudos thankfully avoids the potentially dark places the story could go with humor, poignancy and a whole lot of "aw-shucks" moments. With little more than an old wooden set and cleverly employed video, Veloudos and company create nearly picture-perfect scenes.

Jordan Ahnquist is the absolute embodiment of the show's sanitized, bright-eyed, adventure-loving Huck Finn. Charming, vocally adept and filled with youthful optimism, Ahnquist is almost too clean to get dirtied by life.

De'Lon Grant beautifully captures the dignity and goodness of Jim while creating some of the show's finest musical moments. His delivery of "Free at Last" with fellow slaves is inspiring and his duets with Ahnquist, "River in the Rain" and "Worlds Apart," are heartwarming.

Veloudos smartly makes the bad guys buffoons and nobody does it better than J.T. Turner and Peter Carey as inept swindlers The King and The Duke, respectively. But the baddest of them all is Paul Farwell, who nearly steals the show as Huck's abusive, drunken father Pap. His delivery of "Guv'ment" will make you cringe at its relevance today.

If you go

"Big River" is a musical adaptation of Mark Twain's classic tale of runaway teen Huck Finn and escaped slave Jim's adventurous trip down the Mississippi River. The duo get hustled by con men, come to grips with the reality of racism and ultimately forge a strong bond as they each chase their own dream of freedom.

'Big River'
Through Oct. 8
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▶ McGarrahan, left, and Roach share a tender moment in "Next Fall."

The sleeper hit of 'Next Fall'

SpeakEasy gets gay without cliché In the hands of director Scott Edmiston, cast gives a great performance

"Next Fall" could easily get lost in its own clichés. Plays about gay urban couples grappling with relationship issues seem to be all the rage lately. Toss in caustic wit, a supportive female friend and parents who don't know that their son is gay and you've got yet another story.

What makes the SpeakEasy Stage Company's current production work is not the writing of playwright Geoffrey Nauffts, but the captivating storytelling of director Scott Edmiston.

Initially, the play's scattered timelines feel a bit confusing as the plot winds its way into predictable territory. But as the story unfolds, Edmiston draws you in with smooth, seamless transitions that make it feel like a riveting drama you hope will never end.

Dan Roach is so convincing as Luke that you can easily become envious of his unwavering faith while questioning the inadequacies of your own. Much of his appeal comes from the ease Luke exudes as a direct result of his Christian beliefs.

Plot points

Luke is a gay Christian who blesses himself after sex and believes being gay is a sin. Adam is his boyfriend, an older non-believer who struggles with Luke's faith. When faced with a life-threatening crisis, the duo and close family members are forced to walk the talk of their given faiths.

The problem: His partner Adam is an older, nebbishy hypochondriac with all the requisite baggage and none of the faith. Will McGarrahan nicely captures all the quirks and the unlikely duo share a chemistry that actually works.

Amelia Broome is superb as Luke's fast talking, formerly fast-living mother Arlene. Deb Martin and Kevin Kaine deliver solid performances as Holly and Brandon, respectively, but it's Robert Walsh who delivers the most gut-wrenching performance of all.

Whether Luke's devout Christian dad is unwittingly spewing venomous lines or dropping to his knees in complete, utter surrender, Walsh will leave you thinking long after the curtain has come down.

'Next Fall'
Through October 15th
BCA Roberts Studio Theatre
527 Tremont St., Boston
$25-$55, 617-933-8600
www.bostontheatrescene.com

NICK DUSSAULT
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Cookies for a cause

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In February 2007, Gretchen Holt-Witt was stunned to learn that her 2-and-a-half-year-old son, Liam, had pediatric cancer. Also stunning were the initial words from Liam's doctor.

"One of the first things that Liam's oncologist said to me was that kids don't make headlines because nobody cares about a kid who gets cancer. And I said, 'Well, you know what? You take care of my kid, and I will do everything I can to make sure that every kid gets a headline.'"

That was the motivation Witt, the director of public relations for OXO, needed to start raising awareness and funding for pediatric cancer, the leading fatal disease for children in the U.S., taking the lives of more children than asthma, AIDS, MS and muscular dystrophy combined. Witt decided to sell cookies to raise money, but this wasn't just your everyday bake sale: With the help of her friends, she baked and sold 96,000 treats, raising $420,000 in the process. From there, she took the idea national, and the nonprofit Cookies for Kids' Cancer was launched in September 2008. Since its inception, there have been more than 3,000 events held across the country in 49 states (they're just missing Vermont!) and in countries like Germany and Mexico. In just three years, Cookies for Kids' Cancer has raised $4 million.

Now Witt has compiled some of the most popular bake sale recipes and tips in a new cookbook, "Best Bake Sale Cookbook," with all author proceeds benefitting Cookies for Kids' Cancer.

Sadly, two months ago, Liam lost his fight with the disease. But despite her loss, Witt has no plans of slowing the operation down.

"I have two choices," she says. "I can either curl up in a ball and cry, or I can do what I know he would want me to do."

▶ To get involved, visit www.cookiesforkidscancer.org.

PHOTOS: LUCY SHAEFFER FOR COOKIES FOR KIDS CANCER; BEST BAKE SALE COOKBOOK

MEREDITH ENGEL
meredith.engel@metro.us

Theater Critics elects Metro's Dussault to Committee

For the past decade you've seen his byline on Metro theater reviews (like the little face pictured above and to the right) and you've probably also seen him on Fox, waxing hilarious about "American Idol" and "Dancing With the Stars." Now the Boston Theater Critics Association has elected Nick Dussault as a member to their selection committee. In this capacity, Dussault will help select winners for the annual Elliot Norton Awards, which recognize outstanding achievement in the greater Boston theater community. We've always thought Nick has done a great job recognizing outstanding achievement — and calling out productions that didn't quite make that mark — and we congratulate him on this latest honor. ● **PAT HEALY, ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR**

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TAG theater & arts guide

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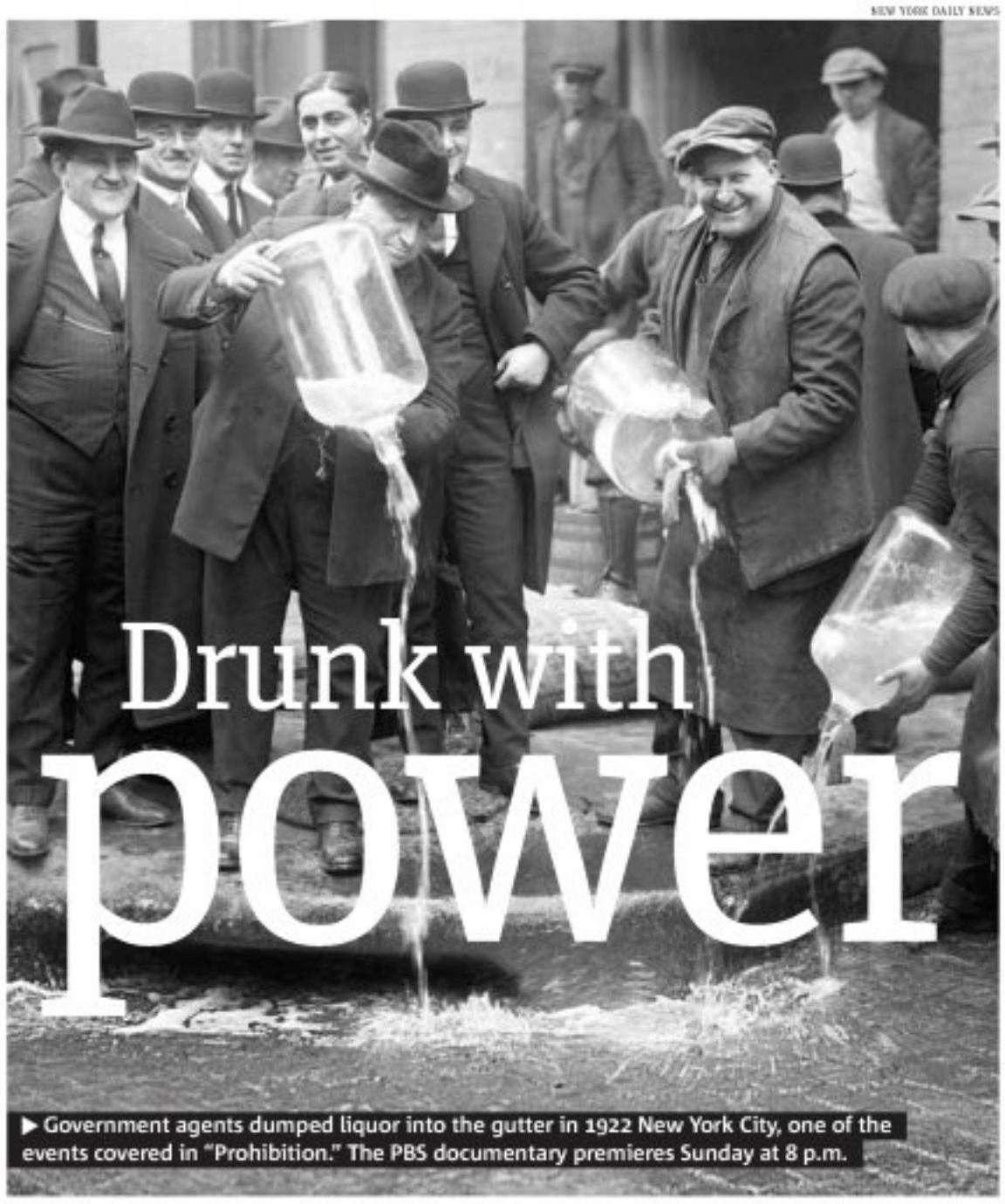
How did a nation come to ban alcohol? Director Ken Burns examines the 'abject failure' of the 18th Amendment in the new PBS documentary, 'Prohibition'

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS



Drunk with power

▶ Government agents dumped liquor into the gutter in 1922 New York City, one of the events covered in "Prohibition." The PBS documentary premieres Sunday at 8 p.m.

In the simplest terms, Prohibition — the 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning "the manufacture, sale or transportation of intoxicating liquors" — became law under the auspices of lobbyists who believed that a corrupt society could be bettered with the elimination of alcohol. Of course, nothing about Prohibition is simple.

"We not only didn't fix everything about society, we made half the nation lawbreakers, and we created organized crime and a host of other horrific unintended consequences," says Ken Burns, who, along with filmmaking partner Lynn Novick, examines the law and the 1920s era so defined by the ruling in the PBS documentary, "Prohibition."

In typical Burnsian fashion, the three-part, five-and-a-half-hour series utilizes well-documented history (the rise of Al Capone) and lesser-known stories (23-year-old Lois Long — pen name Lipstick — covering the speakeasy lifestyle for the New Yorker) to shed light on an important moment in American history. But it's a period of political and cultural upheaval that reverberates today.

"If I told you that I had been working with Lynn for several years on a film about single-issue political campaigns, if the story was about the demonization of recent immigrants to the United States, if I told you we'd been working on a film that involved smear campaigns during presidential elections or unfunded congressional mandates or, more importantly, a whole group of people who felt they'd lost control of their country and wanted to take it back, you would insist that we had abandoned our historical interests and were covering the contemporary political scene," Burns says. "But, of course, we are only dealing with a handful of the topics that are engaged throughout our series on Prohibition."

AMBER RAY
amber.ray@metro.us

Quoted

Ken Burns explains that "Prohibition" begins where it ends — with alcoholism remaining an issue:

"[Prohibition]" was born out of noble purposes. ... How do you stop the scourge of what was then called drunkenness? This problem that afflicts perhaps 10 percent of us, whose solution was imposed on 100 percent of us and failed miserably, is still around. And no government anywhere has been able to find a solution to it."

WWW.METRO.US/TV IS KEN BURNS A FAN OF 'BOARDWALK EMPIRE'?

TV watch list

'Homeland'

DRAMA. Claire Danes plays a troubled CIA agent who suspects Damian Lewis' POW rescued from Iraq has "turned." Is he a hero or terrorist? Is she driven or unstable? It's unclear, and that's what makes this taut thriller so excellent. **Series premiere, Sunday, 10 p.m., Showtime**

'Bedlam'

DRAMA. Just because you turn an old asylum into new apartments doesn't mean all the former tenants are going to leave. This spin on the old haunted house tale is creepy sleep-with-the-lights-on fun. **Series premiere, Saturday, 10 p.m., BBC America**

AMBER RAY

MTV2 must-see

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How deep is your bass?

James Blake took the booming of dubstep, melded it with minimalistic songwriting, and it resonated with the masses

▶ James Blake may Google himself every now and then, but he doesn't care what you say.

How different is your new work?

I think it's getting more outward. I've come quite a long way, personally and musically in the last year or so. I've had a lot of new experiences, I've been to a lot of new places, I've met a lot of new people and listened to a lot of new music. That's what touring does. I think my music has kind of developed. I think it's better? I don't know.

If you go

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967 Comm. Ave., Boston
SOLD OUT

The first thing you notice when you listen to James Blake play live is that he is a compelling songwriter. The next thing you probably notice is a sub-bass sound so deep that it will make your insides swim.

The singer says he first realized how to harness the power of sub-bass when he was recording a cover of the Feist song, "Limit to Your Love."

"It was just pretty intriguing at the time," he says, "and I got obsessed with the effect, physically, that sub has on you, and loved to use it."

You played so many different festivals this summer. And I first saw you at the SXSW festival in Texas. Do you ever get to check out any of the other acts?
I was fascinated by Odd Future at SXSW. To me, it looked like that festival kind of broke them. They did really well to show people what they can do. I saw them twice. The second time it took me a while to get in. It was like ridiculous hype, to the point that I don't think I've ever seen before.

Well, some might argue that the hype surrounding you comes close.
I just think it's a different kind of hype. It's gone at different speeds and I think they're burning at a different temperature.

It has been interesting to watch the online thermometer, so to speak. For you there seemed to have been hype and then there was the backlash.
I loved the backlash. It was really cool.

Oh yeah? Why?
Because once the backlash happened, there was a backlash against the backlash, and it was really interesting to see. To be honest though, I'm not really part of it. I think that's what I've liked about it.

Are you saying you don't have a Google Alert with your name?
[Laughs] I don't think anyone can say they've never done that, but I think it just matters so little to the creation of music what 6 million Internet people think that it didn't really bother me too much. But from what people told me, for every negative thing that was written, there were about 100 positive things.

There are so few lyrics in your songs. After performing them over and over for the past year, do you find that you're ...
Bored?

No, I wasn't going to say that, I swear. Do you find you get something entirely different out of the few words?
I love it, actually, because singing something that is so distilled means that you have to really care about it while you're singing it.

Quoted

"Once the backlash happened, there was a backlash against the backlash, and it was really interesting to see."
JAMES BLAKE

PAT HEALY
pat.healy@metro.us

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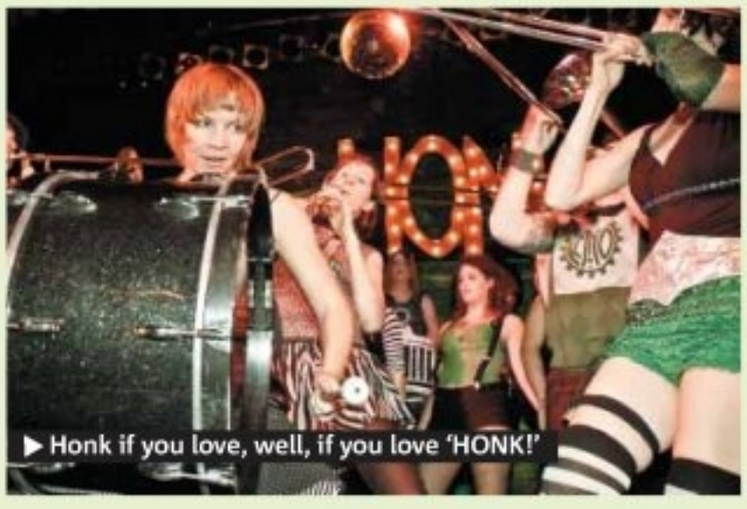
▶ Honk if you love, well, if you love 'HONK!'

Marnie Stern

Friday, 8 p.m.

▶ Really, can Marnie Stern get any more awesome?

Middle East Upstairs
472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
$10-$12, 18+, 617-864-3278
www.mideastclub.com
Marnie Stern is a beautiful blonde who happens to be a virtuoso guitar shredder. As if that wasn't enough, she's a great indie rock songwriter with a unique, eclectic voice. We can only conclude from this evidence that she's some kind of Valkyrie sent by the Nordic gods in anticipation of Ragnarok. (Look it up!) Anyway, that's the only sensible explanation, right?

MATTHEW DINARO

THE WEEK THAT WAS

What do we want? Change! When do we want it? Well, maybe if we just sit tight it'll resolve itself by 2012

BRAYDEN SIMMS
brayden.simms@metro.us

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Please send 100-word submissions to letters@metro.us.

What have we learned?

EMILY ANNE EPSTEIN/METRO

Someone's got to do something

"WHY #OCCUPYWALLSTREET ISN'T WORKING," MOTHERJONES.COM, SEPT. 27.
The ongoing protests against Wall Street cronyism have received scorn from both sides of the aisle, with critics calling demonstrators disorganized, unfocused and, ultimately, ineffective.

Of course, the establishment form of protest — voting — is even less effective, particularly on the issue of government corruption. With both major parties clearly in thrall to their financial industry sponsors, this route can yield no substantial fruit. (Obama, initially hailed as the progressive answer to Bush-era regulatory neglect, filled his cabinet with banker elite.)

So what other options do you have? Well, you can try writing. (Though let's be honest: Who reads?) You can, like so many others, resign yourself to the reality of your political powerlessness. Or, if you're fed up enough, you can brave the elements, police brutality and media mockery in order to raise awareness by sleeping in a public park.

There's another option, of course: Disengagement, cynicism and derision.

You choose.

Adorable headlines

"The Zen Of sarcasm, part 1"
HUFFINGTONPOST.COM, SEPT. 28
What's the sound of one hand playing the world's tiniest violin?

"Cantaloupe outbreak deadliest in a decade"
FORBES.COM, SEPT. 28
Worst since the '90s post-Lewinsky melancholy.

"Dead Sea Scrolls now online"
ABCNEWS.GO.COM, SEPT. 27
Message us when you find some live sea scrolls, k?

"Cain upsets Perry in straw poll"
CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM SEPT. 24
Perry took some heat over his love of bendy straws, while Cain doubled down on crazy.

Horoscope

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Go out with friends and enjoy yourself socially, but don't waste your money on frivolous pursuits. You'll have a far better time getting value from what you spend.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Be careful not to take on more than you can comfortably complete. If you start a bunch of projects and finish none, there could be problems for a long time to come.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Maintaining a positive attitude not only boosts your disposition, it helps you be accepted by your peers. Harboring doubts causes you to worry about things that'll never happen.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Find a way to nicely wiggle out of lending some money to a friend who has never repaid you for previous floaters. Your pocketbook could use the breather.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Hoping to impress someone by affecting pretentious mannerisms will only make you look phony. Relax and let your wonderful personality prevail.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Having an indiscreet conversation with a friend about things that should remain confidential could turn your secrets into common knowledge.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Watch yourself so that you don't snub someone or treat a person rudely just because you are envious of his or her achievements. You'll get your chance to shine soon.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Strive to be decisive instead of wishy-washy or condescending, which only makes you look weak. A failure to take a firm position could both confuse and annoy your listeners.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** First seek out the proper instructions from an expert before using any unfamiliar tools or materials. You could get in trouble very quickly if you simply start throwing switches.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** If you have to associate with someone whom you know from experience is deceitful and underhanded, keep your guard up. People don't easily change.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** So that you're not construed as being rude and thoughtless, be mindful of any promises or appointments you've made. Oversights on your part will not easily be forgiven or forgotten.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** You've heard it before: "Unless you have something nice and complimentary to say about a co-worker, don't say anything at all." This never gets old.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

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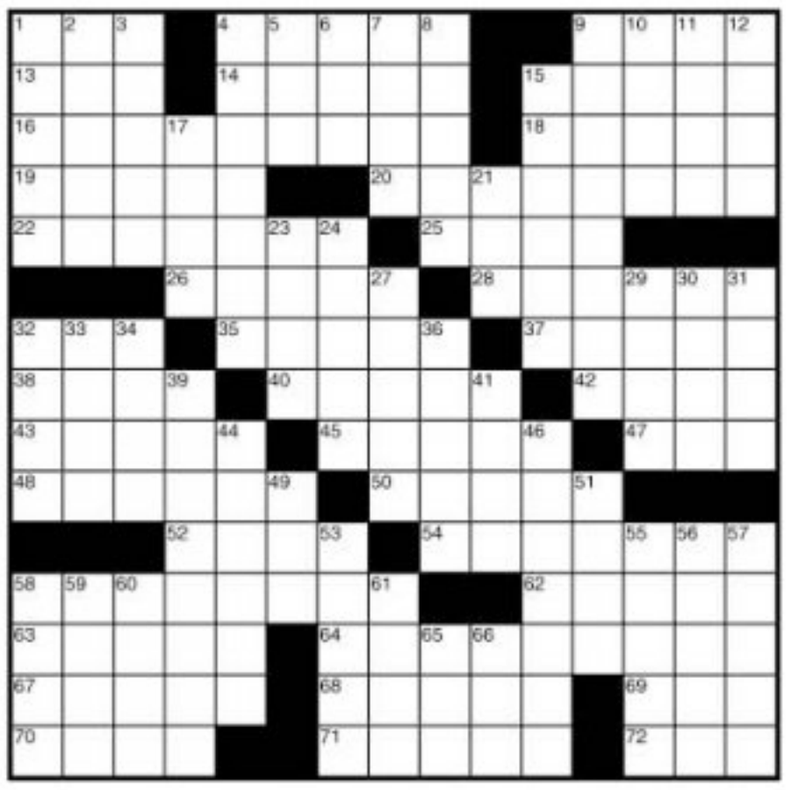
Across
1 Roam around
4 Beauty pageant prize
9 Clump of dirt
13 Orangutan
14 T-bar user
15 Pirate's take
16 Like a Chinese cabinet
18 Ragtime's __ Blake
19 Rocket pioneer Wernher von __
20 Monster's lake (2 wds.)
22 Anyway (2 wds.)
25 Very funny person
26 Burn or sting
28 Hilo hellos
32 PC key
35 Of the hipbone
37 Because of (2 wds.)
38 Foam-ball brand
40 Disney site
42 Tijuana trio
43 Welcome
45 A drinking toast
47 Lennon's wife
48 Fix leftovers
50 Swung around
52 Laundry amount
54 How the sedate behave
58 Acted pretentious
62 Danish islands
63 Igloo dweller
64 Mutiny
67 Melodies
68 Razor filler
69 Calif. hours
70 Tries to find out
71 Bread ingredient
72 Continent divider

Down
1 Emperor after Nero
2 Separated
3 Window sticker
4 Seismic event
5 Tina Turner's ex
6 Atmosphere
7 Colonial dance
8 Inner fire
9 Exclude (2 wds.)
10 Earring site
11 Name in elevators
12 Changes color
15 Look at
17 Part of Q and A
21 Spy org.
23 Mall attraction
24 Stumbles
27 Picture hangers
29 The good guy
30 Two fives for __
31 Passable (hyph.)
32 Cal Tech grad
33 Bone-dry
34 Work gang
36 Ices
39 Vassals' obligation
41 Like a bow string
44 Cutthroat and rainbow
46 Spring growth
49 Damage
51 Clock front
53 Run for the roses
55 Trickles down
56 Unfastened
57 Busybody
58 Pocket bread
59 Burden
60 Went under
61 Not stet
65 Moo companion
66 Newsroom VIPs



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		4			6		8	
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	4		2					5

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

9					8			
				3	2			
6	8		9		1		7	
8		9	5	2			3	
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	4			9	3	7		8
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			2	8				
			6					3

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to Thursday's crossword

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E	R	G	O	■	L	R	O	N	■	I	O	N	I	A
A	D	A	■	B	I	T	T	E	R	S	W	E	E	T
P	E	R	S	O	N	A	■	■	E	E	N	Y	■	■
■	■	■	T	E	T	■	R	I	P	S	■	M	O	D
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L	I	A	R	■	D	E	L	A	Y	■	A	O	N	E
E	A	R	N	■	R	A	I	N	■	P	I	N	K	S
O	O	P	■	H	O	L	T	■	L	A	M	■	■	■
■	■	O	M	O	O	■	■	G	E	N	E	R	A	L
F	L	O	A	T	P	L	A	N	E	S	■	O	R	O
D	O	N	U	T	■	I	G	O	R	■	M	U	O	N
I	R	E	N	E	■	L	I	M	E	■	E	S	M	E
C	E	D	A	R	■	T	O	E	D	■	T	E	A	■

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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- It wasn't a dream: The Red Sox's 2011 season really is over
- It was the worst September collapse in the history of Major League Baseball
- Here in New England, all we can do is sit back and wonder ...

How could this happen?

REUTERS

The comparisons between the Red Sox collapses of 2011 and 1978 apparently extend a lot deeper than the standings.

Like the infamous '78 team that blew a 14 1/2-game lead to the Yankees, the current edition's unprecedented blown nine-game lead in September was the result of fractures from within.

Twenty-five iPads for 25 players.

The collapse complete and the season over, manager Terry Francona reflected on a moment three weeks earlier that foretold the free fall. Even with the Sox having crushed the Blue Jays 14-0 in Toronto on Sept. 6 to raise their record to 85-56, a fearful Francona called an impromptu postgame team meeting.

"September, 7-20 was as bad as you can get. We'll be dissecting that phase of the season forever."
GM THEO EPSTEIN

"I thought we were spending too much energy on things that weren't putting our best foot forward towards winning," Francona said. "As the season progresses, there's events that make you care about each other, and this club, it didn't always happen as much as I wanted it to, and I was frustrated by that."

Quite simply, both physically and mentally, this Sox team got fat as 2011 progressed. And when it came time to stop the bleeding, as the losses mounted in September and the wild-card lead over Tampa Bay dwindled, Boston was unable to stop the slide.

278
A calculation by The New York Times' Nate Silver showed the odds against the Red Sox ultimately losing the wild card the way they did at 278 million-1.

"The response to urgency, when you handle it well, is an increased focus, togetherness, intensity, raising your level of play at the most important times," GM Theo Epstein said. "You can certainly say, across the board, that if the urgency was felt, we didn't respond to it the right way.

"There's nothing good that comes from a September collapse, at all. But if there's one silver lining ... when you do make the playoffs, you can fall back on a track record of success and the tendency is to look past certain things. But when you go through what we just went through, you can't look past anything."

JEFF GOLDBERG
sports@metro.us

Gonzo: Playoffs never in the cards

Maybe, just maybe, there was never a chance for the Red Sox to make the playoffs.

If God didn't want them to, after all, they were never going to.

At least that's what Adrian Gonzalez says.

"We didn't do a better job with the lead," Gonzalez said early Thursday morning. "I'm a firm believer that God has a plan and it wasn't in his plan for us to move forward." METRO

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MORE ON THE RED SOX'S ... OFFSEASON. WEIRD, HUH? WWW.METRO.US/SPORTS

THEY'VE GOTTA GO!

Like it or not, heads must roll after the Sox disaster
Here's five guys who shouldn't be back for next year

1 J.D. Drew: Let's start with an easy one. The aging right fielder's contract is expiring, and there's no way the Red Sox should bring him back.

You can't really blame Drew for Boston's collapse ... but that's only because he barely played. He appeared in just 81 games this year, managing a .222 batting average and a .315 OBP.

Here's what the Sox got for their five-year commitment to Drew: 606 games, a .264 average, 80 home runs and 286 RBIs. See ya.

2 Jonathan Papelbon: Here's one silver lining in Wednesday night's disaster: It finally gives the Sox license to cut ties with the fan favorite at closer.

There's little reason to believe Papelbon won't be an effective pitcher in 2012. But overpaying for closers is not something Theo Epstein loves, and Boston has a much more cost-effective solution in-house in Daniel Bard.

Sorry Pap, but you're history. Thanks for the angryface.

3 Jason Varitek: The captain gave it his all down the stretch. But there's simply no need to keep him around with Jarrod Saltalamacchia and Ryan Lavarnway ready to (at least) split time behind the plate.

After The Worst Collapse in Baseball History, the Sox can't afford sentimentality. It's time for a new era.

4 David Ortiz: We agonized over this one. Honestly, we did. But Big Papi's time at Fenway has to be up.

There's no denying Ortiz had a great year. But he's 35, and at least some of his success against lefties in 2011 was a mirage — his batting average on balls in play against southpaws was a lucky .371. That will regress.

He'll get big money this offseason. Hopefully, Theo doesn't sign the check.

5 Terry Francona: This one hurts the most. We hate blaming managers for their teams' failings; they don't play the games, after all.

But the Sox need a major facelift. And with the real culprits (we're looking at you, Crawford) stuck in place for years, Francona might have to take the fall. Sucks, but that's baseball. METRO

GETTY IMAGES GETTY IMAGES REUTERS

▶ Gone. Gone. And (perhaps unfairly) gone.

GRADING THE REST OF 'EM

Taken as a whole, the Red Sox's 2011 season wasn't all that bad; a few guys had career years. But some (cough ... John Lackey ... cough) were horrible. Here's a breakdown of the key names. METRO

B Adrian Gonzalez Gonzo delivered just about everything you can ask for in his first year at Fenway, breaking the 200-hit barrier and posting a 155 OPS+. The only thing keeping him from an 'A' is the massive price tag.

F Carl Crawford Before Wednesday's misplay in left field: Terrible. Now: Utterly unconscionable. After the worst season of his career (a sub-league-average 85 OPS+), Crawford is only lucky contracts are guaranteed in Major League Baseball.

C Jarrod Saltalamacchia He's not the franchise catcher many assumed he would be as a prospect, but Salty was OK in 2011. Superstar catchers are hard to come by; without one, just about average will do fine.

B+ Dustin Pedroia Pedey played every day, hit .307, scored 102 runs, hit 21 home runs and rang up a career-high 131 OPS+. He's been doing this for five years now. Another 10, and we're looking at a borderline Hall of Fame career.

B Marco Scutaro He's the Jarrod Saltalamacchia of infielders: Not great, not that good, but not bad, either. You can't knock him for not being an All-Star, because nobody expected it. The Sox could upgrade, though.

C Kevin Youkilis Youk missed major time for the second year in a row, and faces offseason surgery. When he was on the field, he put up his worst numbers since 2006 — his first full season in the bigs. At 32, the clock is ticking on this All-Star.

A Jacoby Ellsbury The collapse should disqualify Ellsbury from the MVP debate. Too bad. He bounced back from a ruined 2010 with the first 30-30 campaign in Boston history. He led the league with 364 total bases, and drove in 105. And they thought about trading this guy!

B Josh Beckett The Texan was an ace until injury troubles reared their ugly heads once more. A sub-3.00 ERA for the year usually deserves at least an 'A-,' but he gave up six runs in two losing efforts over the final week. That's unacceptable.

B– Jon Lester: Props to Lester for giving a gutsy effort on three days' rest Wednesday. But overall, 2011 was a regression year for the lefty — even before he took three consecutive shellings against the Rays and Yankees in late September. See a trend here?

A Alfredo Aceves Give this man a raise. The former Yankee came very close to being the man who pulled the Sox into the playoffs, pitching just about every day down the stretch. For the year, he gave up just 33 runs in 114 innings over 55 games.

B– Daniel Bard The third-year setup man made his case to take over for Jonathan Papelbon over the summer, pitching scoreless ball for two months. Then he made his case for unemployment in September, with a 10.64 ERA over his last 11 outings.

F John Lackey: This is John Lackey's ERA: 6.41. This is John Lackey's salary: $16 million. This is John Lackey's ERA: 6.41. This is John Lackey's salary: $16 million. This is John Lackey's ERA: 6.41. This is John Lackey's salary: $16 million. Get it?

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Another villain turn for Johnson

Ray is suddenly close to Red Sox's 'marquee of misery' Put him up there with Dent, Wilson, Boone Wednesday's HR was killer for Boston

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Dan Johnson hurt the Red Sox again Wednesday night.

He might not find his name on the same Red Sox marquee of misery as Bucky Dent, Mookie Wilson or Aaron Boone. But Dan Johnson sure is making a pretty good case.

Think back to September 2008, and a critical game at Fenway Park. A Sox victory gives them the AL East lead and likely home-field advantage for a potential ALCS matchup.

Instead, Johnson, having literally shown up mid-game after missing a flight on the way from being summoned from the minors, homers off Jonathan Papelbon, and instead Game 7 of the ALCS is played at Tropicana Field, where the Rays beat the Sox.

That was just Johnson's opening act.

Wednesday, before the whirlwind double-endings in Baltimore and St. Petersburg ended the Sox's season, Johnson kept the Rays alive one more time, hitting a two-strike, two-out solo homer in the ninth to tie Tampa's game against the Yankees 7-7. It set the stage for Evan Longoria's Sox-killing walkoff in the 12th.

"Dan Johnson, God bless him," teammate Ben Zobrist said. "I said a prayer for him when he was up there."

And so it's the Rays taking on the Rangers in Game 1 of the Division Series today, having completed a comeback that began with a series sweep over the reeling Sox from Sept. 9-11, cutting the wild-card lead from six to three.

It all seemed for naught for the Rays, trailing 7-0 in the eighth inning, as the Red Sox lead 3-2. But after a six-run eighth, Johnson kept the dream alive.

"That is so unthinkable to do what we did," Rays manager Joe Maddon said. "At the moment it happens, what are you supposed to do? What do you react to this? How do you actually celebrate? ... I don't know. I am pretty good at digesting things, but this one's going to take a bit."

JEFF GOLDBERG
sports@metro.us

This is why predictions are bad

Metro's 2011 MLB preview ran on March 31.

In it, under the headline "Take it to the bank," appeared our predictions for the Red Sox's season.

Just for fun, here's our team MVP pick: "Carl Crawford's unique skillset provides the Sox with something very few teams can match — a true speed/OBP combo."

But wait! There's more!

How about the Sox's projected finish, six-months-ago-Metro?

"100-62, first place in the AL East; pennant winners (at least)."

GETTY IMAGES

▶ "Team MVP"

We'll take some solace in this qualifier.

"The new-look lineup and rebuilt bullpen could take some time to come together. If either falters, 90-95 wins is a more realistic estimation."

Ninety wins! We nailed it!

(Admit it. You didn't see this coming, either.)

METRO

Four potential playoff stars

PHOTOS
1. KIM KLEMENT/US PRESSWIRE
2. OGBY WONG/US PRESSWIRE
3. TROY TAORMINA/US PRESSWIRE
4. KANE NAME/AGENCY

1 You have to figure **Evan Longoria** is on a roll. The kid homered twice in the Rays' unbelievable comeback against the Yankees on Wednesday night, including a Bobby Thomson-esque walkoff. After a so-so regular season, he could be primed to explode.

2 What will we see out of **Roy Halladay** this October? Wins, probably. And potentially something amazing. Remember, the Phillies righty no-hit the Reds in his very first postseason start last year. He only needs a ring to cement his Hall of Fame legacy.

3 Cardinals catcher **Yadier Molina** is coming into the playoffs hot as anything. He hit .341 with a .409 OBP and .512 SLG in September, following an August that saw him go .342-.360-.534. He's a career .315 postseason hitter, so expect big things.

4 Texas' **Mike Napoli** finished his 30-homer regular season in style Wednesday, socking a pair of dingers. He's long had a power stroke. But this year, he finally added some OBP to the skillset, cutting down on strikeouts along the way. He could be a force.

METRO

Intriguing matchups highlight postseason

Yankees, Phillies look like strong contenders But as we've seen, you can't write off the little guys, either

Powerhouse top seeds in the Phillies and Yankees, and a pair of wild-card Cinderellas, make for intriguing matchups in the first round of the playoffs, starting Friday.

The thrilling regular-season finish fixed the lineups for the best-of-five Divisional Series, with the defending American League champion Rangers hosting the Rays. The AL-best Yankees host the Detroit Tigers.

The AL Central-winning Tigers will send baseball's top pitcher, Justin Verlander (24-5), to the mound against New York ace CC Sabathia (19-8) in a game that could set the momentum in a short series where one false step can lead to early elimination from the postseason.

"There is no human explanation for what happened here."
BEN ZOBRIST, OF THE RAYS

The National League series begin Saturday, with the Phillies hosting the Cardinals and the NL West-winning Diamondbacks visiting the Central division-champion Brewers.

Survivors of the division showdowns advance to their respective League Championship Series, with the winner of those best-of-seven tilts earning a trip to the World Series.

Boston will surely be rooting against the Rays, but they have a real shot. Their rotation is strong with David Price, James Shields and Jeremy Hellickson. REUTERS

Star-crossed in the Bronx

The Yankees have home-field advantage in the AL. But they're far from perfect.

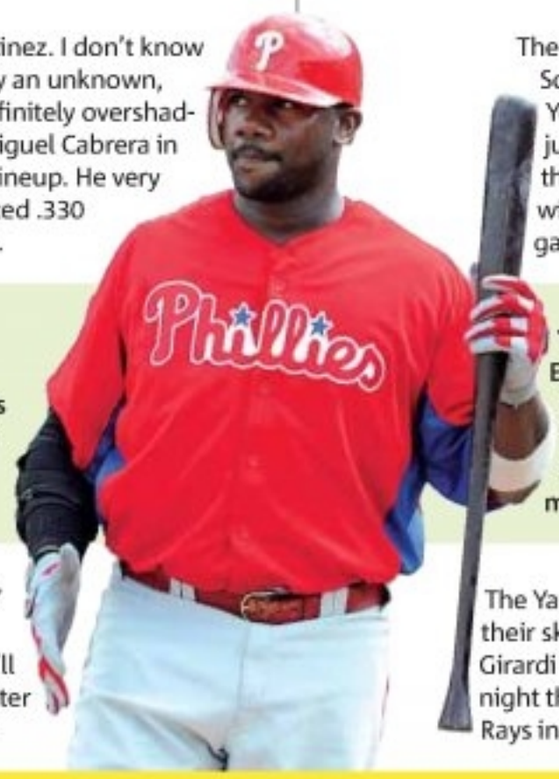
- **They'll try** to win a 28th World Series title with a deep offense supporting a questionable starting rotation following CC Sabathia. But they boast all-time saves leader Mariano Rivera to close things out.
- **New York will rely** on rookie Ivan Nova (16-4) as their No. 2 starter, and veteran Freddy Garcia for Game 3. They'd better hope Derek Jeter and Co., come through with runs.

REUTERS

▶ The Yankees are strong, but flawed.

The editors' postseason roundtable

	Why do you have *that* team winning the World Series?	Who's the breakout star of this year's postseason?	Which team is going to disappoint its fans the most this October?	What's the best part of this year's playoffs?
Mike Greger **Metro Philadelphia** **ALCS:** Yankees **NLCS:** Phillies **World Series:** Phillies in five games.	Roy Halladay. Cliff Lee. Cole Hamels. Roy Oswalt. ... Once more for the slow kids: Halladay. Lee. Hamels. Oswalt.	John Mayberry Jr. He was red hot down the stretch for Phils (.305 in September) and 39-year-old Raul Ibanez is going to need a day off at some point. Besides, he's only pop Phils have off the bench.	The Rays. You can only ride momentum for so long, so they'll get bounced early. But do Tampa Bay fans even care?	Philadelphia is the center of the baseball universe. Prince Fielder's three-run bomb ensured the Fightins would have home-field advantage throughout the postseason. Cheesesteak Up!
Mark Osborne **Metro New York** **ALCS:** Tigers **NLCS:** Phillies **World Series:** Phillies in five.	Pitching, pitching ... and pitching. We all know pitching wins championships. You need three big-time starters in the postseason. You can't do much better than Roy Halladay, Cliff Lee and Cole Hamels in the rotation.	Victor Martinez. I don't know if he's really an unknown, but he's definitely overshadowed by Miguel Cabrera in the Tigers lineup. He very quietly batted .330 this season.	The Yankees. Sorry, New York, but they just don't have the pitching to win a seven-game series.	All of the great pitching. It obviously starts with Justin Verlander, but Roy Halladay and CC Sabathia aren't far behind. These are veteran pitchers who know how to pitch under the bright lights of the playoffs.
Adam Smartschan **Metro Boston** **ALCS:** Rangers **NLCS:** Phillies **World Series:** Phillies in six.	Sheer depth. The Phils have the best rotation by far, and the lineup — like Ryan Howard — is underrated.	Desmond Jennings. His speed is perfect for October baseball.	The Red Sox. Even not playing, they'll manage to make it worse.	A complete lack of November baseball. Playing the most important games of the season when it's not 30 out ... weird.
Brian McCrone **Metro Philadelphia** **ALCS:** Rays **NLCS:** Phillies **WS:** Rays in seven.	I like a thing called momentum. Recall the Rockies of 2007? I also LOVE young pitching studs. The Rays have that too. And last, Evan Longoria. Everyone loves him.	"Big Game" James Shields. He'll shine brighter than Price.	The Yankees and their skipper Joe Girardi will rue the night they let the Rays into the show.	See if Verlander really deserves the MVP and Cy Young Award. He needs to beat the Yanks twice. Then seeing if Phils handle the pressure and get back to the WS.



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Different paths after QB's 'Tuck'

It's been nearly a decade since Tom Brady's infamous "incomplete pass" in the 2001 AFC playoffs Since then, it's been Patriots up and Raiders down But are fortunes changing?

It's been almost 10 years since Tom Brady's fumble in the 2001 AFC divisional game against the Raiders was ruled an incomplete pass. Since that night, one organization has experienced the highest of highs, while the other has been relegated to the cellar of the NFL.

By no means have the tables turned in the early stages of the 2011 season, but it's clear that the Raiders are on the up and up. The future in the Black Hole is bright.

The reason, aside from some new talent, of course, is the attitude change in the locker room. An organization with so much pride lost sight of what it truly meant to be a part of "Raider Nation." Oakland coach Hue Jackson has worked to restore that manner.

"I think it's the attitude of expectation," Jackson said. "I mean, the Raiders have been great [in the past], just like the Patriots have done it, just recently — Super Bowls and winning. The Raiders at times were that team too — year-in and year-out, in the playoffs, challenging for the Super Bowl."

Fresh off their win against the Jets, the Raiders are rolling, and they're ready to give the Patriots their best shot. Could this be another franchise-changing game for both teams?

"It's all about making our players understand the rich tradition and history that has been here," Jackson said.

"It's time to get that back. It's time to work back into that mode." METRO/JT

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Hue Jackson has the Raiders playing like a real NFL team.

Injury update

Who practiced, and who didn't, on Thursday:

- **Did not practice:** DT Albert Haynesworth (back), TE Aaron Hernandez (knee), OT Sebastian Vollmer (back), DL Mike Wright (concussion)
- **Limited:** S Patrick Chung (hand), Ras-I Dowling (hip), DL Shaun Ellis (knee), G Logan Mankins (illness), P Zoltan Mesko (knee), WR Taylor Price (hamstring)

3 Things to watch for

Week 4: Patriots at Oakland 4:15, CBS, 98.5 FM

1 Stop DMC from running

Fantasy owners who scooped up Raiders RB Darren McFadden this season are probably drooling over the matchup against the Patriots this week.

McFadden has rushed for 393 yards and three touchdowns so far, and he caught a TD pass, too. He's easily the focal point of the Raiders' offense, and the Pats' No. 1 concern.

The goal will be taking an early lead — and keeping the foot on the pedal. That would force the Raiders to throw, something they aren't great at. But if McFadden finds a seam — look out. He's going all ... the ... way.

2 Can Mankins stop Seymour?

When Logan Mankins and Richard Seymour butt heads Sunday in Oakland, it will definitely bring back some fuzzy practice memories.

But as soon as one of them gets thrown to the ground, it'll be on.

Don't buy into Seymour's "just another game" act. The Pats shipped him to a dismal Oakland team two seasons ago. While the Raiders are doing OK now, it's likely Seymour still holds a grudge. Mankins and the Pats O-line will have their hands full with the big DE, who would love nothing more than to knock Tom Brady around.

3 Another loss would equal panic time

When the Patriots lose a game, eyebrows get raised. When they lose two games in a row, the alarms sound.

The Pats have only lost back-to-back games twice since 2003, and after a stunning loss to a Bills team they used to pick on twice a season, they'll need to make things right.

You never see it here, but as losses pile up, doubt sets in. Week 5 won't get any easier (Jets), and if the Pats can't set the tone early in Oakland, a losing record after that game is a reality.

JIMMY TOSCANO
sports@metro.us

'Sense of urgency' for Pats

To hear Jerod Mayo tell it, there's no panic in the Patriots right now.

But they do know just how wrong last week went.

"I think we have a sense of urgency," the linebacker said Thursday. "We have to get better, fast."

Mayo has 21 total tackles in three games this year. METRO

The Cold, Hard Football Facts

A look at Sunday's Patriots-Raiders showdown, through the eyes of the football stat experts at coldhardfootballfacts.com.

It wasn't the defense's fault

New England's defense is so weak it gets beat up by everybody in the pigskin playground.

- **But blame for** last week's loss to Buffalo falls squarely on quarterbacking super stud Tom Brady, who threw four INTs. NFL teams simply cannot overcome that type of performance.
- **NFL QBs** are 13-204 (.060) since 1990 when they throw four or more INTs in a game.

Winning with the run

The Raiders are the very rare NFL team that wins with the run. They rank:

- **No. 1 in rushing yards** 180.5 yards per game
- **No. 2 in rushing average** 5.5 yards per attempt
- **No. 2 on the Cold, Hard Football Facts "Offensive Hog Index"** Stud Darren McFadden produced the No. 1 rushing performance of 2011 in Oakland's Week 3 win over Jets, according to CHFF "Rusher Rating."

FFchamps.com's 'Start and Sit'

- **Start him** LeGarrette Blount is golden this week. The Colts have allowed 315 yards and four TDs in three weeks. That's the third-most fantasy points to opposing RBs.
- **Sit him** Sam Bradford faces a tough Washington defense this week. The Redskins have allowed the fourth-fewest fantasy points to opposing QBs.

FANTASY FOOTBALL CHAMPS
FFchamps.com

Sports in brief

Updyke sorry for Tiger trees

The Alabama fan charged with poisoning Auburn's oaks at Toomer's Corner apologized to Tigers fans during a radio appearance this week.

Harvey Updyke Jr., appearing against the advice of his lawyers, didn't admit that it was he who harmed the two trees. Updyke is facing charges of criminal mischief and desecration of a venerated object.

REUTERS

Detroit big man charged

Pistons C Ben Wallace has been charged with drunken driving and unlawfully carrying a concealed weapon, according to reports.

METRO

Maynard anxious for another shot at Edgar's UFC crown

Lightweight contender nearly TKO'd champ in their last meeting ● May rematch was pushed back to Oct. 8

@ADAMSMARTSCHAN FOR METRO'S BEST MMA ANALYSIS AND NEWS

Gray Maynard is no dummy. He knows that he could have — and perhaps should have — finished Frankie Edgar during the wild first round of their UFC lightweight title fight on Jan. 1.

He came close after staggering the champ with a big left hand. But Edgar withstood the five-minute onslaught, and earned a draw.

"He's a tough kid," Maynard told Metro on Thursday. "Of course there was stuff I could have done. I could have been a little bit more calculated with how I threw. But hindsight's always 20-20."

The undefeated Maynard will finally get a chance to set things right next weekend, when he'll meet Edgar again at UFC 136 in Houston. Their rematch was originally scheduled for May, but both fighters were injured in their training camps.

That might have been for the best for Maynard — he said the May camp "wasn't going that great."

This time around, the No. 1 contender is concentrating on adding to his wrestling style.

"I'm always trying to evolve," he said. "That's important for the sport, to evolve and learn."

ADAM SMARTSCHAN

GETTY IMAGES

NBA. Trouble

▶ David Stern is reportedly playing hardball.

Season good as gone?

NBA commissioner David Stern plans to threaten players with the cancellation of the 2011-12 season if CBA progress is not made this weekend. METRO

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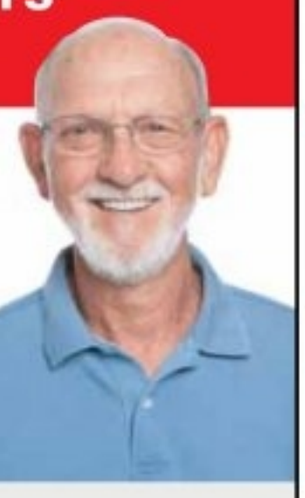

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Date of Death: 07/24/2007

to all persons interested in the above captioned estate, a petition has been presented requesting that Sharon Dionne of Manchester, NH be appointed administrator of said estate to serve Without Surety	Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street PO Box 9667 Boston, MA 02114 617-788-8300

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Date: September 16, 2011

Register of Probate

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